

THE ELECTRICAL WORKER

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International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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IBEW News



PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

- 1st Place: Nicholas Rains
2nd Place: Christina Daniels
3rd Place: Joseph Kelly
Honorable Mention: Jordan Skarda & Joe Sergi

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SNOWED IN

20th Annual Photo Contest Winners

To get a picture of just how much snow fell on Lake Tahoe in January 2017 you'd need NBA legend Shaquille O'Neal; and then another to stand on his shoulders; and one more. Two elephants stacked one atop the other would come close.

Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 member Nicholas Rains and three of his IBEW brothers standing on one another's heads would still have been buried three feet from view.

From New Year's Day to Feb. 1, more than 25 feet of crystal mountain powder fell out of the sky, burying everything, including the electrical grid connecting South Lake Tahoe's 21,000 residents to the rest of the world.

"The storm was so violent," Rains said. "The trees were so snow-loaded, it was so cold out, your nose was purple, any exposed skin was hurting so bad."

But, he said, this is why being a lineman is the best job in the Brotherhood.

"Everyone made the best of it," he said. "We were really loving our job."

FIRST PLACE

Nicholas Rains

Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245

Rains' image of that moment created an avalanche of support that won him the 20th Annual IBEW Photo Contest.

Over the last 20 years, hundreds of images capturing the life and work, the people and places of the IBEW have been submitted, first to the Journal and now The Electrical Worker. They show the artistic vision and skill of our members behind the camera and document their varied lives and interests.

PHOTO CONTEST: RESULTS *continued on page 3*

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FROM THE OFFICERS

We Stood Up



Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President

This year started in the worst possible way for many of our brothers and sisters who work for the federal government.

Faced with no paycheck and no idea how long it would be until the next one, these women and men could have stayed quiet and waited for the very politicians who caused the mess to fix it.

But I'm proud to say they did no such thing.

Over the course of the record 35 days the federal government was partially shut down, members of this union and others stood up and demanded an end to the impasse. I was proud to join them marching outside the White House, but that wasn't the end of their activism.

Members of this Brotherhood called members of Congress, wrote letters to the editor, told their own stories of hardship and demanded an end to the practice of using government workers as pawns in political squabbles.

And most importantly, they reached out and helped one another. All across the U.S., from California to Texas to Pennsylvania, we heard stories of IBEW members and locals — even those with no federal workers — reaching out to their communities.

Whether it was feeding workers and families impacted by the shutdown, opening their halls and wallets to donate food and supplies, or simply offering a supportive word to those being forced to work without pay, our members stepped up.

When the politicians wouldn't act, we did.

As I look back on those ridiculous 35 days, I'm filled with hope for the future of workers in America, because workers — not politicians — ended the shutdown.

That fact was pointed out by columnists in prominent newspapers and pundits on cable news, but those of us in the labor movement knew it was always going to be that way. We know firsthand that real change — whether it's inside a company or in the halls of Congress — comes when working people stand together and demand action.

By the time you read this column, the Feb. 15 deadline for another extension of government funding will have come and gone. I can't predict whether there will be another shutdown. But I can tell you that I have faith in the working men and women of the IBEW and that they will again stand up and be heard if the need arises.

I can also promise you that we'll work with other unions that represent federal employees to end the practice of holding working families hostage over petty political disputes. A fair day's pay for a fair day's work is a bedrock principle of our society and this union, and we'll never stand quietly by and watch our sisters and brothers be forced to work without paychecks again.

Thank you for all each of you did to stand up and send that message to Washington. ■

Better Benefits, Lower Costs

Rising costs continue to make health care one of the toughest issues we face at the bargaining table.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the total annual cost of an employer-sponsored plan rose from \$5,791 in 1998 to \$18,142 in 2016. And it is only going to keep going up in the years to come.

For the IBEW, ensuring quality coverage for our members and their families has always been one of our top priorities as a union. But in these days of spiraling costs, many locals and signatory employers are finding it harder and harder to provide the health care their members and employees deserve.

That is why we started the IBEW/NECA Family Medical Care Plan.

First launched in 2006, the FMCP today covers close to 100,000 IBEW and NECA members, and that number keeps growing. In 2018, 16 new groups joined. And as of the first of the year, we've already recruited two more.

Altogether, we've got approximately 1,000 companies participating in the plan, including seven Fortune 500 companies.

One of the plan's biggest draws is that it provides comprehensive benefits at a lower cost. Since the end of 2007, healthcare prices across the nation have rocketed by 21.6 percent. But for Family Medical plan members, rates have gone up by less than 5 percent over that same time period.

The FMCP, which the IBEW runs in conjunction with the National Electrical Contractors Association, saves money because it operates without the need for profits. It also doesn't rely on advertising or have extensive overhead like most for-profit insurers do.

We also save money through innovative new programs that cuts costs while giving participants access to more convenient care; programs like Live Health Online. (See our story on page 8 of this issue)

With the Live Health Online app, Family Medical Care plan members can videoconference with a licensed doctor in just minutes. They'll answer your questions and even write you a prescription, all from your own home, using your own phone or any smart phone device.

This is not only convenient for our members. Since we started Live Health Online, we've saved nearly \$90,000 in just the first few months because a videochat is a lot cheaper than an in-person appointment or a trip to the emergency room.

FMCP members can download it for free either at the app store or Google. They can also go to www.livehealthonline.com.

For those locals who are not part of the Family Medical Care plan, I would strongly recommend checking it out. It is a great tool to help meet our obligation to provide comprehensive health care at a competitive rate.

Feel free to contact me and my office at any time for more information on how the FMCP can work for your members. My door is always open when it comes to helping make your jobs easier. ■



Kenneth W. Cooper
International Secretary-Treasurer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Correction

In February's Electrical Worker, we inadvertently replaced Sixth District International Vice President David J. Ruhmkorff with new Sixth District International Executive Council member Dean E. Wine in the list of executive officers on Page 19. We intended to replace the name of former IEC member John Easton Jr., who moved on to a new position on the international staff. We apologize for the error. ■

Tribute to an IBEW Legend

December 1, 2018, was a sad day for all members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers when International President Emeritus Brother Edwin D. Hill passed away. I classify Brother Hill as a true visionary with the likes of first International President Henry Miller and former New York Local 3 Business Manager Harry Van Arsdale Jr. All three men dedicated their lives to the Brotherhood. Every day as I pass through the hallway to my office, I glance at the bulletin board where I have Ed's letter to the membership from the May 2005 Journal, titled "Do or Die." I take to heart his quote:

"The best stays that way by constantly thinking, planning and, most important, changing when necessary."

Through his guidance, the IBEW once again began organizing, showing both contractors and customers that we are the right choice and gaining market share. This change did not happen overnight nor without resistance from the membership. Yet, Brother Hill prevailed, and we all owe him a great deal of gratitude for all his hard work. He will surely be missed.

*Michael P. Iacobellis, Local 80 Training Director
Norfolk, Va.*

Gratitude for Longtime Members

I'd like to recognize Brothers E. J. Hayes and L.D. Clark, who were recently awarded pins for 65 long years of service to Local 1209 and the IBEW. Brother Clark [pictured here as I awarded him his service pin] was the former president and business manager of this local prior to his retirement from Mississippi Power. To this day, he keeps on top of everything going on in the union, and we're grateful for his and Brother Hayes's service.

*Robert Napp, Local 1209
Business Manager
Meridian, Miss.*



We Want to Hear From You: Send your letters to media@ibew.org or Letters to the Editor, The Electrical Worker, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.



From Facebook: Every month the IBEW Facebook page receives thousands of comments from our dynamic and engaged community of members and friends.

Thanks for Mentors

[Responding to "BC Organization Looks Past Recruiting Women to the Next Step: Keeping Them" from February's Electrical Worker]:

I love the IBEW. I adore my brothers and sisters. It wasn't super easy in the beginning, but we figured it out together. I was offered a great opportunity and, as in all jobs, you have to put forth the effort, maintain a good work ethic, get along with your co-workers, ask for help when needed, earn respect and do your job. Not everyone can do everything, and that's OK as long as you try and find your strengths and apply them without giving up. I gained new perspectives and admiration for the people I worked with. Thank you to everyone who took the time to teach me, mentor me and to everyone who believed in me.

*Christine Matarese, Local 313 member
Wilmington, Del.*

20th Annual Photo Contest Winners

▶ Continued from page 1



SECOND PLACE

Christina Daniels |
Portland, Ore., Local 48

June 9 was the first time Portland, Ore., Local 48 members joined the city's Rose Festival 4-mile Grand Floral Parade. The parade has a "Salute to Service" section dedicated to those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"Our idea was to have a group of tradeswomen marching near veterans," said Christina Daniels. Nearly four dozen women, about 10 percent of the local's female membership, dressed up as the iconic motivational World War II poster model commonly known as "Rosie the Riveter."

The Rosies were going through a pre-parade warmup at Portland's Memorial Coliseum when Daniels snapped this shot of an enthusiastic Jessica Hill, a Local 48 member who, at the time, was gearing up to finish her apprenticeship and has since been a regular fixture at the local's meetings.

"This event really opened things up for us," Daniels said. "It helped us connect with members we don't usually connect with and it really jump-started their participation."

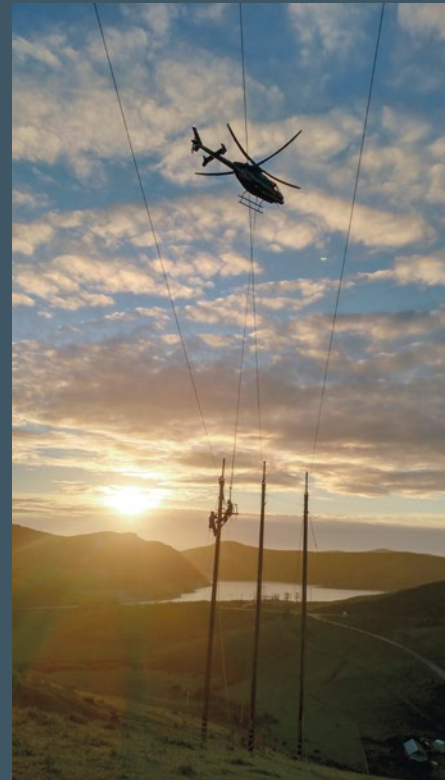


THIRD PLACE

Joseph Kelly | Boston Local 103

This year's third-place winner shifts back into the cold. When Boston Local 103 member Joseph Kelly snapped this picture of journeyman wiremen Robert DeLeo, Steve Illingworth and Gary Rowe, they were 40 feet off the ground at the Salem Harbor Energy Center. Kelly said it was close to 20 below zero with the wind chill when he asked his three brothers to turn toward the bright winter light and flash a smile. His popular picture brought a smile to hundreds of voters.

HONORABLE MENTION



Jordan Skarda | Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245

The first honorable mention captures the end of the day and 30-hour shift that started long before that day began. Vacaville, Calif., Local 1245 members Jordan Skarda, KC Nancolas and Kevin Claggett were on their final job, repairing an open jumper on a pole in the foothills near Cayucos, Calif. As the sun went down and the helicopter lifted off, Skarda scampered up a hill to try and take it all in. The California sun — peeking between the fog and the clouds setting Whale Rock Reservoir aglow — has a way of bewitching people.



Joe Sergi | New York Local 3

The final award goes to New York Local 3 member Joe Sergi, who worked for more than a year on the Throgs Neck Bridge, the city's easternmost connection to Long Island. Sergi's picture of brothers Ernest Cordero and Todd Kim upgrading the bridge's security system shows a side of New York that isn't often seen. No skyline; just the tree line. No blacktop or chrome; just blues, whites and greens for miles, with only Cordero's taxi yellow hardhat a not-so-subtle reminder of the city hustle a few miles away.

We hope these images have inspired you to pull out your camera at work or play. Not everyone works within sight of a Pacific sunset or fairy tale winter kingdom a mile above the sea, but everyone knows someone who can turn to the camera and smile. We look forward to seeing what you can do in the next 12 months.

Look for next year's photo contest to be announced here in The Electrical Worker later this spring. ■

The State of American Democracy, One Year Later

One year ago, we wrote in these pages about a crisis in our democracy. The picture was dark. Tens of millions of American citizens live in gerrymandered electoral districts with borders surgically created to keep incumbent politicians in office. Millions more voters are locked out of the voting booth entirely.

Nevertheless, in the 2018 midterm election, hundreds of politicians at all levels of government were tossed out of office — many in districts purposely drawn to prevent just that. The stakes were enormous.

New legislative maps will be drawn in 2021 after the next census, but if there was to be any hope that working people wouldn't lose another decade to the banks and the bosses, single party control in states had to be smashed.

The nation's democratic future is much brighter today than it was before Election Day. In addition to all the new faces, nearly a dozen states passed ballot initiatives that throw open voting booths to millions of disenfranchised citizens and take the mapmaking tools out of the hands of party hacks.

But the details matter, and when examined closely, some of the clouds retained their dark linings.

For example, 40 congressional seats flipped red to blue, delivering an activist caucus of progressive, pro-union representatives to offices that had been filled with corporate sympathizers seemingly hand-picked by Wall Street executives.

But of the new faces, less than a quarter won in districts drawn by elected officials. More than 75 percent were in districts drawn by nonpartisan commissions or courts after legal challenges.

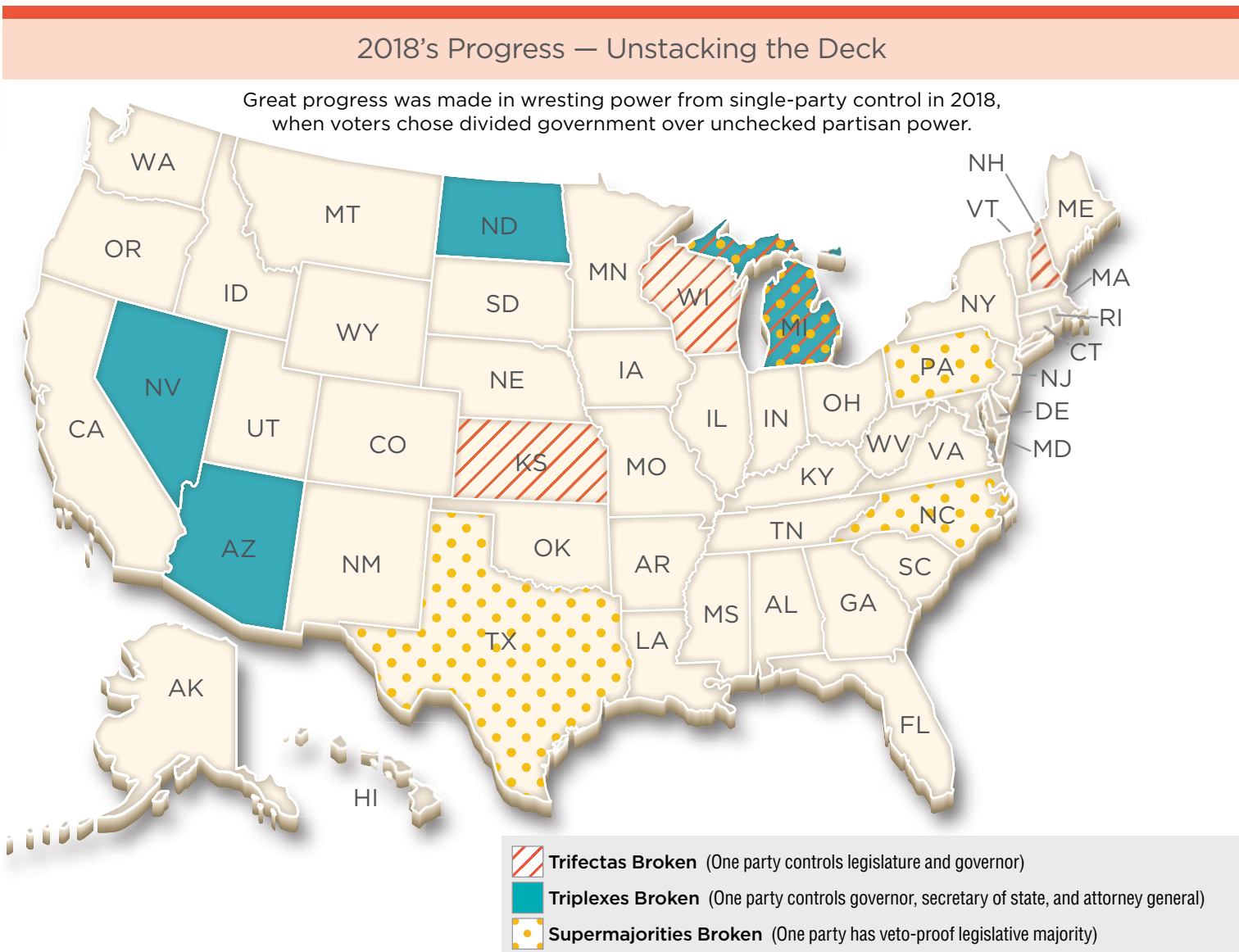
"We still live in a country where a politician has a better chance of choosing their pool of voters than the other way around," said International President Lonnie R. Stephenson.

More than half of states are still under the unitary control of a single party. It is true that Republicans have been much more aggressively anti-union, but when only one party is in charge, neither party does especially well for organized labor or working people.

"The headlines in Congress were welcome news, but below that we see a tremendously mixed bag," said Political and Legislative Director Austin Keyser. "Life gets better for working people when politicians of both parties have to compete for our allegiance. You'd be hard pressed to look around and see that yet."

First, the Bad News

At least 23 states passed new voter restrictions since the 2016 election, and hundreds of polling places have been closed since 2013, mostly in the right-to-work South.



Millions of voters were purged from voting rolls: Florida purged 7 percent of all eligible voters, Georgia more than 10 percent and North Carolina more than 12 percent, according to a 2016 report from the Leadership Conference Education Fund.

The result, Keyser said, were states where voters went one direction, but you'd never know it by who showed up in statehouses in January.

In North Carolina, for example, Democrats won nearly 50 percent of all votes cast, but Republicans won 10 of 13 U.S. House seats. In Ohio, Republicans won only 52 percent of all votes but took 12 of 16 House elections and 73 of 116 statehouse races.

It was even starker in Wisconsin. Despite Democrats winning every statewide office on the ballot and receiving 200,000 more total votes, only one Republican incumbent lost his seat in Wisconsin's lower house. Democrats netted 1.3 million votes for the Assembly, 54 percent statewide, but Republicans returned to the Capitol in 2019 holding 63 of 99 seats in the legislative body.

"Since they redrew the maps a decade ago, they've done everything they could think of to shut us up," Stephenson said. "We did a darn good job of making ourselves heard all the same, but the job isn't close to done."

There Was Good News

One of the most positive signs was that more people ran this time. Safe politicians, no matter their party, rarely listen to working people. This doesn't have to be true, but politicians on the right with no challenger settle comfortably into the silk-lined pockets of the Chamber of Commerce, and Democrats end up talking about everything but decent jobs.

More than 6,000 seats were up in 2018 in 87 of the 99 state legislative bodies. At least 30 governors, lieutenant governors and attorneys general were up along with 27 secretaries of state.

New Governors Could Help Restore Balance

New Democratic governors will play an enormous role in the coming years as states enter the post-2020-census redistricting process. After 2010, elected leaders in many states stacked the deck against working people, drawing uncompetitive state legislative and congressional districts that effectively disenfranchised millions of voters. New governors, supported by the IBEW and others in the labor movement, have the opportunity to undo some of the damage thanks to gains made in last November's elections.



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer
Michigan



Gov. Tony Evers
Wisconsin



Gov. Laura Kelly
Kansas



Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham
New Mexico

August International Executive Council Meeting

Minutes and Report of The International Executive Council's Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the International Executive Council was called to order at noon, by Secretary Patrick Lavin, on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, in Chicago, Illinois. Other members of the council in attendance were Calabro, Calvey, Burgham, Riley, Furco, Easton, Lavin, and Galbraith. Chairman Erikson was not in attendance, so that he could attend to business of his local union.

International President Stephenson

International President Lonnie R. Stephenson met with the members of the International Executive Council to discuss a variety of matters affecting all branches of the Brotherhood.

International Secretary-Treasurer Cooper

International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth W. Cooper presented financial reports covering the IBEW Pension Fund and the Investment Portfolio of the Brotherhood both in Canada and in the United States.

Legal Defense

Payments for legal defense, made from the General Fund, were examined and approved in accordance with the requirements of Article X, Section 1, of the IBEW Constitution.

Financial Reports

The International Secretary-Treasurer's Reports for the various funds of the Brotherhood were presented to the members of the International Executive Council, examined, approved, and filed.

IBEW Local Union 1997

A motion was made, seconded and carried to grant the International President the authority of up to \$500,000.00 for the startup of IBEW Local Union 1997, as a result of the successful NLRB election of Atlanta Gas Light. These funds are contributed unencumbered.

Appeals Filed with The International Executive Council

The International Executive Council conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to an appeal from Local Union 194-member John V. Bates, and it is the decision of the IEC to deny Brother Bates' appeal.

The International Executive Council conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to an appeal from Local Union 77-member Richard R. Brandon, and it is the decision of the IEC to deny Brother Brandon's appeal.

The International Executive Council conducted a thorough review of the facts pertaining to an appeal from Local Union 124-member Robert J. Malone, and it is the decision of the IEC to deny Brother Malone's appeal.

Article XX and XXI Cases

During the third quarter of 2018, the IBEW was not involved in any Article XX or XXI disputes.

Trusteeship

Effective July 3, 2018, Local Union 969 was placed under International Charge. A hearing was conducted on July 30, 2018.

IBEW Consolidated Balance Sheet ending June 30, 2018

Reviewed and Filed

IBEW Pension Benefit Fund Consolidated Balance Sheet ending June 30, 2018

Reviewed and Filed

Retirement of International Vice President

William F. Daniels, International Vice President, First District
Effective — July 1, 2018

Retirement of International Representatives

James E. Ayer III, International Representative, Education Department
Effective — August 4, 2018

Robert L. Corrado, International Representative, Membership Development Department
Effective — July 1, 2018

William L. Dever Jr., International Representative, Business Development Department
Effective — September 1, 2018

William F. Paul, Director, Support Services Department
Effective — August 1, 2018

Janet P. Schwingshagl, International Representative, Education Department
Effective — August 1, 2018

Retirement of Lead Organizer

Henry L. Lewis, Lead Organizer
Effective — July 12, 2018

Retirement of International Office Employees

Vanessa R. Alaniz, Sr. Research Assistant, Research Department
Effective — August 23, 2018

Margaret M. Berwanter, Electrical Training Alliance
Effective — June 16, 2018

Cynthia L. Walls, Secretary, CIR/Bylaws & Appeals Department
Effective — June 7, 2018

This regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned, on Wednesday, August 30, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the International Executive Council will commence at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, in Washington, DC.

For the International Executive Council

Patrick Lavin, Secretary
August 2018

The IEC acted on numerous applications under the IBEW pension fund. For a complete listing, consult www.IBEW.org, clicking on the International Executive Council link on the "Who We Are" page. ■

Left: IBEW Members mobilized all over the U.S. for the 2018 election, including in Wisconsin, where Tony Evers unseated longtime union-antagonist Gov. Scott Walker. Newly-elected Gov. J.B. Pritzker, below, defeated Bruce Rauner in Illinois, who was the driving force behind the union-busting Janus v. AFSCME case decided last year by the Supreme Court.

general) in four states — sometimes called a triplex — winning secretary of state offices in Colorado, Michigan and Arizona and attorneys general in Colorado, Michigan and Nevada.

"This gives me hope that for the first time in close to a decade — especially in the key swing states in the upper Midwest — voters will be heard, and we can start reversing some of the catastrophic decisions made by now-former governors like Scott Walker and Bruce Rauner," Keyser said.

Ballot Measures and the Courts

Still, sometimes voters have to take matters into their own hands and claw back the power from representatives by directly putting the question to the people.

From 2010 to 2017, there were only five measures that expanded access to the ballot, reported the Brennan Center for Justice, a non partisan public policy institute based at the New York University Law School.

In the 2018 election alone, 10 ballot-expansion measures passed. Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Utah and Colorado all reformed their redistricting laws, taking some or all power from elected officials and injecting some sunlight into the democratic process.

A new voter-approved redistricting commission in Michigan will take map-drawing power away from elected officials and put it in the hands of a bipartisan commission, and in Florida, voters overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment to restore voting rights to many nonviolent felons upon completion of their sentences.

In one final bit of potentially good news, just one day after the new Democratic majority took over in the House, the Supreme Court agreed to hear two cases challenging particularly egregious gerrymandering in Maryland and North Carolina. For the first time, the Supreme Court could rule that a partisan gerrymander is so skewed that it violates the Constitution.

Or it might not.

"It's hard to put a great deal of hope in a court that is this conservative, but I think Chief Justice John Roberts is eager to show that the Supreme Court can rise above this darkly partisan time," Keyser said. "But even if they rule against us this time, that won't change the truth that people are taking gerrymandering seriously in a way they weren't 10 years ago."

"We're grateful to all our union brothers and sisters who have taken this issue so seriously," Stephenson said. "In less than two years, we'll have another chance to put representatives in place who will stand up for fairness in elections. The 2018 strides were a great start, and I'm excited to work even harder to level the playing field for the next decade and make sure working families have an equal voice in our democracy." ■



Gov. Steve Sisolak
Nevada

NORTH OF 49° | AU NORD DU 49° PARALLÈLE

New Law in Ontario Threatens Jobs, Worker Safety

Under the guise of modernizing apprenticeships and cutting red tape, Ontario's provincial government recently pushed through a blatantly anti-worker measure that instead will end up putting skilled people out of work and placing workers' safety at risk.

"Bill 47, the so-called 'Making Ontario Open for Business Act,' is actually a gift to open-shop contractors," said First District International Vice President Tom Reid. "For years, they've lobbied for an easier path toward hiring lower-paid, less-skilled workers, and now they have one."

Until recently, Ontario law required one journeyman be hired for each of the first four apprentices working on a given job site. For electrical workers, the ratio shifted to three journeymen for each of the next three apprentices, then six journeymen for each of the next six apprentices, and finally three journeymen for each apprentice after that.

The Progressive Conservative party gained majority control of Ontario's government in June following the provincial elections. Party leader Doug Ford, now the province's premier, introduced Bill 47 partly in response to some contractors' claims that the ratios were keeping employers from finding apprentices and apprentices from finding jobs.

"What they were really after was maximizing contractors' profits," Reid said.

The bill, which was introduced on Oct. 23 and became law via royal assent just four weeks later, immediately altered the required ratio of journeymen to apprentices to 1:1, regardless of trade or of a site's workforce size.

"And now that employers can bring on helpers or apprentices without proper oversight from trained and certified journeymen, workplace safety becomes a real problem for everyone on the job site," Reid said.

Bill 47's passage is a step backward for workers in Ontario's building trades, Reid said, because reasonable ratios are critical to ensuring the correct balance of apprentices and trained workers.

"This is the beginning of a slippery slope," he said. "In provinces outside of Ontario, open-shop contractors have been lobbying for ratios as high as three apprentices for every journeyman."

The IBEW Construction Council of Ontario, which represents more than 17,000 certified electrical workers in the province, notes that more than 95 percent of IBEW apprentices end up completing their apprenticeships.

"But if we don't provide apprentices with the necessary training, oversight, and knowledge, that percentage might start to fall," Reid said.

Further, statistics from the Ontario Construction Secretariat show that apprentices who sign with a union are 30 percent more likely to complete an apprenticeship.

"Apprentices need to get a broad range of experiences, but they also need

"Bill 47, the so-called 'Making Ontario Open for Business Act,' is actually a gift to open-shop contractors. ... What they were really after was maximizing contractors' profits."

— First District International Vice President Tom Reid

oversight and guidance to learn and be safe on the job and to successfully transition from apprentice to journeyman," Reid said. "It's hard for one journeyman to constantly keep an eye on just one apprentice, because journeymen also have to stay focused on their own work."

Bill 47 also eliminated Ontario's College of Trades, a body whose responsibilities included enforcement of trades and worksite ratios. Without the college's over-

sight, employers now will find it easier to replace experienced journeymen with apprentices or low-paid helpers, Reid said.

Established in 2013 when Ontario was led by Kathleen Wynne's Liberal Party, the college's 21-member board of governors has consisted of representatives of the skilled trades and the public at large appointed by an independent council.

The college ensured that trades workers had the proper training and certi-

fication to work legally in Ontario. It also maintained a public registry of licensed and certified trades workers, and apprentices were only allowed to work in a trade if they had College of Trades certification and were working with a journeyman.

"Unfortunately, the college was mired in politics from the moment it launched and had trouble achieving its mandate," Reid said.

Eliminating the college, rather than fixing it, will hurt the IBEW's ability to properly train current and future apprentices. "With Bill 47's passage, jobs can be filled by untrained workers, potentially putting themselves and others in danger," he said.

"The public counts on electricians to provide safe and reliable services," Reid said. "Taxpayers deserve to have the

job done right the first time, and not to pay twice because it was done by someone who wasn't properly trained."

Bill 47 calls for the College of Trades to be disbanded within the next few months. "The government intends to develop a replacement model for the regulation of the skilled trades and apprenticeship system in Ontario by early 2019," the province's Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities said in an Oct. 23 news release posted on its website.

In the meantime, the college noted on its own website that it "will work with the government to support an orderly transition of key functions in the coming months and looks forward to providing input on creating a stronger skilled trades system in Ontario." ■

La nouvelle loi en Ontario menace les emplois et la sécurité des travailleurs

Sous prétexte de moderniser les programmes d'apprentissages et de réduire les formalités administratives, le gouvernement provincial de l'Ontario a récemment passé une mesure législative contre les travailleurs de manière flagrante qui causerait plutôt la mise à pied de travailleurs qualifiés et qui mettra la sécurité des travailleurs en danger.

« Le projet de loi 47, appelé "Pour un Ontario ouvert aux affaires", est effectivement un cadeau pour les entrepreneurs *open shop* », explique Tom Reid, le vice-président international du premier district. « Ils font du lobbying depuis des années pour faciliter les moyens d'embaucher des travailleurs à faible salaire et moins qualifiés, et le voilà. »

Jusqu'à tout récemment, la loi en Ontario exigeait l'embauche d'un compagnon pour les quatre premiers apprentis qui travaillent sur un chantier. Pour les travailleurs en électricité, le ratio a passé à trois compagnons pour les trois premiers apprentis, ensuite, six compagnons pour six apprentis, et finalement, trois compagnons pour chaque apprenti par la suite.

En juin dernier, le Parti progressiste-conservateur a obtenu la majorité du contrôle du gouvernement de l'Ontario à la suite des élections provinciales. Le leader du Parti, Doug Ford, et maintenant le premier ministre de la province, a introduit le projet de loi 47 en partie à cause de quelques entrepreneurs qui blâment les ratios, empêchant les employeurs de trouver des apprentis, et les apprentis de trouver des emplois.

« Ils cherchaient réellement à maximiser le profit aux entrepreneurs, » affirme Reid.

Le projet de loi a été introduit le 23 octobre, a reçu la sanction royale seulement quatre semaines plus tard, et devenue loi. Le ratio compagnon/apprenti requis a immédiatement été modifié pour 1 :1, peu importe le métier ou le nombre d'employés sur le chantier.

« Et maintenant que les employeurs peuvent embaucher des aides ou des apprentis sans supervision appropriée menée par des compagnons formés et certifiés, la sécurité en milieu de travail devient un problème sérieux pour tout le monde sur le chantier, » exprime Reid.

L'adoption du projet de loi 47 est un pas en arrière pour les travailleurs des métiers de la construction en Ontario, dit Reid, puisque des ratios raisonnables sont indispensables pour assurer le bon équilibre entre les apprentis et les travailleurs formés.

« Ceci est le début d'un terrain glissant pour les provinces à l'extérieur de l'Ontario, les entrepreneurs *open shop* font du lobbying pour obtenir des ratios aussi hauts que trois apprentis pour chaque compagnon. »

Le *Construction Council of Ontario* de la FIOE, qui représente au-dessus de 17 000 travailleurs en électricité dans la province, nous informe que 95 pour cent des apprentis de la FIOE finissent par compléter leurs programmes d'apprentissages.

« Mais si nous ne fournissons pas la formation, la supervision et les connaissances nécessaires aux apprentis, ce pourcentage peut commencer à descendre, » spécifie Reid.

De plus, les statistiques du Secrétariat ontarien à la construction (Ontario Construction Secretariat) révèlent que les apprentis qui joignent les

rangs d'un syndicat sont 30 pour cent plus susceptibles à compléter leurs programmes d'apprentissages.

« Les apprentis ont besoin d'acquiescer un large éventail d'expériences, mais ils ont également besoin d'être supervisés et orientés en vue d'apprendre et d'exercer le métier en toute sécurité ainsi que de réussir la transition entre apprenti et compagnon, » ajoute-t-il. « C'est difficile pour un compagnon de constamment garder un œil sur un seul apprenti, puisqu'il doit également se concentrer sur son propre travail. »

Ce projet de loi a aussi éliminé l'Ordre des métiers de l'Ontario (Ontario's College of Trades), un organisme dont les responsabilités inclues la mise en œuvre des métiers ainsi que d'assurer le processus déterminant les ratios en milieu de travail. Sans la supervision de l'Ordre, les employeurs peuvent maintenant facilement remplacer des compagnons d'expériences par des apprentis ou par des aides à plus faible salaire, dit Reid.

Lorsqu'Ontario était dirigé par Kathleen Wynne du Parti libéral, le conseil d'administration composé de 21 membres de l'Ordre, a établi en 2013, que les représentants des métiers spécialisés et du grand public soient nommés par un conseil de nominations indépendant.

L'Ordre s'assure que les travailleurs des métiers spécialisés reçoivent la formation et la certification appropriées pour travailler légalement en Ontario. Ils tiennent aussi un tableau public pour les travailleurs des métiers qui possèdent des permis et les qualifications nécessaires, et les apprentis étaient seulement autorisés à exercer leurs métiers que s'ils étaient certifiés par l'Ordre et

accompagnés d'un compagnon.

« Malheureusement, depuis que l'Ordre a été mêlé à la politique à son lancement, a eu de la difficulté à réaliser sa mission, » déclare Reid.

Éliminer l'Ordre au lieu d'améliorer son fonctionnement va nuire à la capacité de la FIOE de bien former les présents et futurs apprentis. « Avec l'adoption du projet de loi 47, les emplois seront maintenant pourvus par des travailleurs n'ayant pas suivi de formation, et qui risquent potentiellement de mettre leurs vies et ceux des autres en danger, » dit-il.

« Le public compte sur les électriciens pour fournir des services fiables et sécuritaires, » soutient Reid. « Les contribuables méritent d'avoir un travail bien fait du premier coup, et non payer deux fois à cause que le travail a été fait par quelqu'un qui n'a pas été formé correctement. »

Le projet de loi 47 demande la dissolution de l'Ordre dans les prochains mois. « Le gouvernement a l'intention d'élaborer un modèle de remplacement aux fins de la réglementation du système d'apprentissage et des métiers spécialisés en Ontario d'ici 2019, » publié le 23 octobre dans un communiqué de presse sur le site internet du ministère de la Formation et des Collèges et Universités.

Entre-temps, l'Ordre mentionne sur son propre site internet : « nous allons travailler en collaboration avec le gouvernement en vue de favoriser une transition ordonnée des principales tâches dans les prochains mois et nous attendons avec intérêt de pouvoir apporter des améliorations afin de créer un système d'apprentissage des métiers spécialisés plus fort en Ontario. » ■

THE FRONT LINE: POLITICS & JOBS

Agency Created to Protect Federal Workers' Rights Slams Door on Staff Union

A little-known federal agency charged with protecting the right of government workers to organize is refusing to recognize its own union.

Colleen Kiko, who was appointed by President Trump in 2017 to chair the Federal Labor Relations Authority, unilaterally terminated the staff union's contract upon its Dec. 21, 2018, expiration.

"The FLRA will not negotiate or enter into a successor agreement," Kiko said in a letter to the Union of Authority Employees, underscoring that the agency, "will not recognize the UAE or any other labor organization as an exclusive representative of the employees."

The UAE represents about 50 agency workers, mostly lawyers who handle labor-management disputes for 2.1 million non-postal federal workers, a figure that includes thousands of IBEW members employed by the federal government.

Two years after the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 established the FLRA, the agency recognized and began bargaining with the UAE. Nearly 40 years later, Kiko has seized on language in the statute permitting federal unions, arguing that it "categorically exempts" FLRA employees from the same rights that protect employees in other executive branch agencies.

"This is yet another assault on workers by an administration that has attacked unions from Day One and has abused executive orders to derail protections for federal employees," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said.

"It's a level of contempt for workers — from the White House to Mitch McConnell and his grip on Republican senators — that led us to January's government shutdown that left 800,000 federal workers, FLRA included, panicking about paying their bills and taking care of their families."

The FLRA's work had been hampered long before the shutdown by the Trump administration's failure to nominate a general counsel, leaving the agency without anyone to prosecute unfair labor practice claims on behalf of federal employees, unions and agencies.

"People already have low morale because we're not allowed to do half of our jobs," an FLRA employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of fear of retaliation, told Bloomberg Law. "Now, knowing what we do every day, it's more upsetting that our agency won't recognize our own union."

Kiko's argument against the union is correct to the extent that the Civil Service Reform Act did, in fact, exclude the FLRA and a handful of other agencies, including the CIA and FBI, from its worker protections. However, as the Bloomberg article explains, "the agency and its employees created a helpful workaround," one that the Justice Department affirmed in a 1980 advisory decision.



In a one-two punch for employees of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, management terminated its staff union contract one day before the government shutdown began in December. The agency is charged with protecting federal workers' rights.

It called for FLRA to recognize UAE, while barring the union from pursuing unfair labor practice complaints through the agency, which was seen as a conflict of interest. But the union could take certain disputes to nonbinding arbitration.

One of the pitfalls, William Wiley, a former FLRA general counsel, told Bloomberg, is that the union had no way to enforce those decisions if agency leaders refused to abide by them. "It's like me recognizing my kids in a union," he said. "I can take it away from them at any time."

Still, the union has been able to win better benefits and protections for its members. In recent years, for example, the FLRA has agreed to cover lawyers' bar fees and update performance review standards.

Ernest DuBester, the only Democrat on the three-member FLRA board, told Bloomberg that while the agency isn't required by law to negotiate with the union, doing so is a matter of "modeling good behavior."

"This is not a question about whether we are mandated to recognize the union," DuBester said. "But that's a different question than, as the federal agency charged with overseeing labor management relations, why you would say we're not going to recognize the union." ■

Canada's Building Trades Union Pushes for Expanded Maternity Leave

A lot of attention is being paid to getting more women into construction, including a new effort in Parliament supported by Canada's Building Trades Unions.

CBTU Director of Canadian Affairs Robert R. Blakely spoke before a Senate committee in December on the importance of maternity leave for women in the building trades, where the jobs are often labor intensive.

"We want to see if there are some more effective ways to help the bright young women who opt for the trades get a fair shake when it comes to maternity

issues," Blakely said.

The committee hearing was for Bill C-243, an Act Respecting the Development of a National Maternity Assistance Program Strategy. The Act aims to create a dialogue among stakeholders, including the CBTU and members like the IBEW, on what women need in order to balance maternal health and their job responsibilities. That dialogue will ultimately inform legislation to improve the leave Canada already provides.

The inspiration for the bill comes from a woman welder, Melodie Ballard, who had to stop working early into her pregnancy because of the job hazards. It ultimately left her without any income for more than two months, reported the CBC.

"This is much-needed legislation that will improve the lives of both union and nonunion workers. It's good for all Canadians," said First District Vice President Tom Reid.

Canada currently offers 15 weeks of maternity benefits for pregnant women, 12 of which can be paid before the expected due date, according to the government's website. Benefits can also be paid as late as 17 weeks after. Additionally, new parents can get 35 paid weeks within a year of either giving birth or for adoption purposes, with the option of extended benefits for a maximum of 61 weeks.

Employers are required to accept employees back into their jobs, or the equivalent, at the end of their leave at the same rate of pay and with the same benefits.

As more and more baby boomers retire, there's an increasing demand for more tradespeople. Currently, women only comprise about 4 percent of the skilled trades in Canada, reported the Journal of Commerce.

But unlike many other jobs, the construction trades are often physically demanding and can involve exposure to toxic chemicals and gases, making them inhospitable for someone who's pregnant.

Dr. Nicola Cherry, a professor at the University of Alberta, presented findings from studies with pregnant women in the welding and electrical trades.

"It is very suggestive that women

working in the trades are more likely to have a spontaneous abortion and that is true for both trades and particularly in fact for women in Alberta working in welding where the type of work they do is rather different than in perhaps Ontario," Cherry said. "Having said that, we don't find any evidence that women working in these trades have smaller babies, more premature babies, so if they get through the first three months the babies they produce seem to be just as healthy as those who are not working in those trades or who stopped work."

Matt Wayland, First District executive assistant to the vice president and director of government relations, says this is a great opportunity for women's committees to get involved and support the legislation. He encourages IBEW members to contact their members of Parliament.

"This is an opportunity for the government to set an example of good policy for our sisters in the workforce," Wayland said. "No one should have to choose between their health and a paycheck."

One policy that will likely be considered is that of the Iron Workers. The union, which has members in the U.S. and Canada, announced in 2017 that it

was offering six months of leave that can be taken prior to delivery followed by six weeks post-delivery, or eight weeks for a cesarean delivery. The policy is the first of its kind in the building trades, according to a statement by the union.

"No one should have to choose between their health and a paycheck."

— Matt Wayland, First District Director of Government Relations

"When we first started talking about it, I wasn't sure how we'd pull it off and what it would cost, but we realized that it's an investment because we want our well-trained ironworker women to come back to work," said Ben Hur Construction Co. CEO Bill Brown in the Iron Workers statement.

In the U.S., maternity leave is much harder to come by and primarily left to individual employers and states. At the federal level, most women can use the Family Medical Leave Act, which provides 12 weeks of unpaid leave. ■

CIRCUITS

IBEW Collaborates with Entertainment Unions To Fight Harassment on the Job

In support of broadcast members, the IBEW has joined with about a dozen other unions within the entertainment industry to share resources as part of a pledge to combat workplace harassment.

The IBEW and other unions are members of the Department for Professional Employees, a coalition of 24 member organizations representing professional, technical and highly skilled workers. The 12-union group working to battle harassment includes leading entertainment unions such as SAG-AFTRA, Actors Equity, Directors Guild of America and the American Federation of Musicians. It represents about 500,000 workers.

Most IBEW broadcast members in the entertainment industry work as camera operators and technicians, with the most high-profile members nationally working at Fox Sports and CBS.

"Every leader within the IBEW has been saddened by revelations of sexual harassment within the entertainment industry," International President Lonnie R. Stephenson said. "They've been heartbreaking. We've listened closely to our members working in the field and they tell us more needs to be done to secure a safe environment where threatening behavior is not tolerated."

"Sharing our resources and working with other unions is the best way to achieve

CIRCUITS continued on page 8



The IBEW is joining with labor partners to put a stop to sexual harassment in the entertainment industry.

Credit: Creative Commons / Flickr user Tom Benson

CIRCUITS Continued

that. The IBEW has been an active part of this coalition from the outset and will continue to support its work.”

The topic became part of the national conversation in October 2017, when the New York Times and the New Yorker reported sexual harassment allegations against powerful Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein, along with charges that Weinstein had paid off women for decades to keep their allegations quiet.

The Weinstein Company’s board of directors fired him from his position as head of the company soon after. The news sparked the Me Too movement and Weinstein, who has denied the allegations, was arrested by New York police and released on bail in May 2018. He is awaiting trial on rape and sex abuse charges.

“Individual unions have done a lot of great work before and after the Harvey Weinstein revelations to protect and support their members,” Department for Professional Employees President Jennifer Dorning said. “With all the individual efforts, we felt like it was the right time to come together and support our members in shared workplaces.”

“[Sexual harassment] is a difficult subject to address, but it’s vitally important. Every IBEW member is entitled to a safe place to work.”

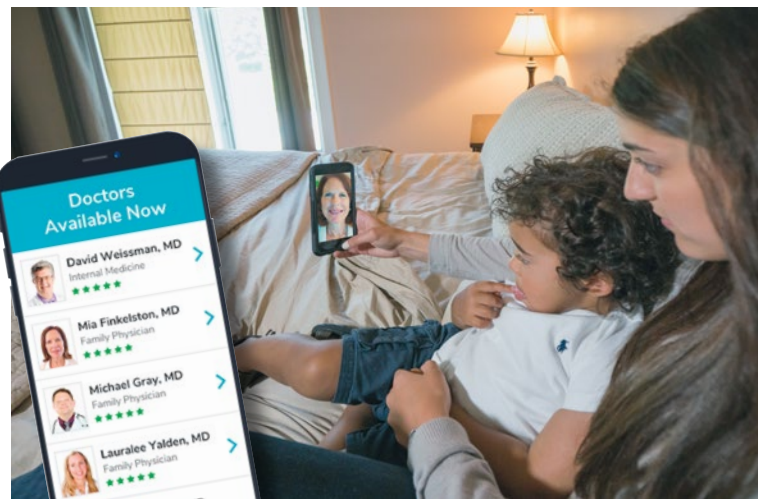
— Broadcasting & Telecommunications Director Marth Pultar

The agreement was formally approved by the participating unions during a Dec. 13 meeting. Other unions that are part of the coalition include the American Guild of Musical Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists, Guild of Italian American Artists, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Office and Professional Employees International Union, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and Writers Guild of America East.

Dorning said initiatives are still being developed, but the unions are expected to share information on how to prevent harassment, including sharing union codes of conduct and training resources for members and leaders.

“Change usually starts with our members,” Broadcasting & Telecommunications Director Martha Pultar said. “We encourage anyone who has experienced or witnessed harassment of any kind to contact their steward or business manager. Members also can reach out to the Broadcasting Department at the International Office for guidance.

“This is a difficult subject to address, but it’s vitally important. Every IBEW member is entitled to a safe place to work.” ■



Live Health Online, a new service for IBEW/NECA Family Medical Care Plan participants, allows patients to bypass the doctor’s office and video chat directly with a provider at no cost.

Same Care, Less Time and Money

You have the flu.

Modern medicine’s solution is for you to drag yourself to the car, try not to kill anyone as you drive through a pounding headache, then wait hours on a cheap plastic couch to see a doctor you don’t know for a prescription. And you’ll pay for the privilege.

It’s even worse if your only option is an emergency room where an out-of-network doctor might walk through the door, ask five questions and hand you a \$1,000 hospital bill.

There is now an easier way.

In less than the time it takes the average person to close the front door and drive to a nearby walk-in clinic, members of the IBEW’s Family Medical Care Plan can launch the Live Health Online app on their phone, videoconference with a licensed

doctor and have a prescription sent to an in-network pharmacy — for free.

You don’t even have to get out of bed, which you never wanted to leave in the first place.

The service not only saves you time and money and keeps vulnerable you out of a room filled with sick people, it saves the IBEW money too. The service is so much cheaper than urgent care and emergency room visits that the plan has saved nearly \$90,000 in just the first few months it’s been active with only a few hundred users. There are more than 85,000 members eligible, said International Secretary-Treasurer Kenny Cooper.

“When you’re sick, the last thing you want is to surround yourself with people worse off than you,” he said. “Doctors don’t do house calls anymore, but this is a pretty close second and a heck of a lot cheaper.”

And popular. When the FMCP trustees surveyed members that used the program, the average rating was a perfect 5 out of 5.

“Less money, less time, less sick people, more satisfied customers,” Cooper said. “That’s about as easy as it gets.”

Of course, the service isn’t for every problem. If you are having chest pains or trouble breathing, skip the videoconference and dial 911. But for that case of poison ivy

that is running out of control, a dose of prednisone may be all you need, and an online visit might do the trick. The same goes for allergies, rashes, minor infections or any other sort of malady that might be fixed with a quick trip to the doctor.

To sign up simply create an account at <https://startlivehealthonline.com>. Have your insurance card handy, or at least your FMCP member ID. Sign-up takes only a few minutes. If you run into problems, the customer support line is (888) 548-3432.

The trustees of the IBEW’s health insurance plan are constantly adding innovative services for members, Cooper said. Another example is bestdoctors.com, which offers expert second opinions before major medical decisions, also free for members.

The best way to know what your health insurance does for you is to subscribe to the FMCP newsletter at nifmcp.com. Local unions interested in getting a quote for FMCP coverage can visit the website or contact the plan at (301) 556-4300.

“We started the FMCP not just to lower costs for our members and employers, but to improve your lives,” Cooper said. “The advantage of running our own health plan is that we focus on health, not the plan’s profits or margins. It’s all part of our mission to be the best union in the world.” ■

ORGANIZING WIRE

Longtime Illinois Member Tells New Southern Colleagues: We Need the IBEW

After 38 years in the telecom industry and 35 years as an IBEW member in his native Illinois, Randy Phillips wasn’t quite ready to call it a retirement when he left AT&T in 2011. He came from a strong union family with a tradition of fighting for working people.

He got his chance in the Deep South. After Phillips’ wife successfully beat cancer, the couple decided to move to Georgia, thinking warmer weather would be good for her health. He landed a job as a technician for Frontier Communications in Statesboro, about 55 miles west of Savannah, in 2016.

The job paid well, but it was nonunion and offered little protection in case of layoffs or if Frontier was sold or merged with another company, a scenario all too common in the telecommunications industry. So, Phillips had some advice for his colleagues.

“We need a union and the IBEW is the best fit for us,” he said.

“I told them, ‘The writing is on the wall, guys; now is the time to do it.’ ... The average age for us is right around 50 years old. You need to protect yourself. The company can come in any day and say, ‘We don’t need you anymore. You have no recourse.’”

It also didn’t hurt when a co-worker saw Phillips at his desk one day writing out his IBEW membership dues check so he remained eligible for a pension program. That was a visible sign of the value of union representation.

“If you decide to vote this in, which I am heavily recommending you do, you will have a voice at work,” he told his fellow technicians.

Those workers voted 14-0 to seek IBEW representation in 2017 and then voted 14-0 late in 2018 for a first contract, becoming members of Savannah Local 508. Phillips is now the steward for the 14 workers, who are based in Statesboro and at another Frontier location in suburban Atlanta. Fellow Frontier technician Josh Parker handled many of the organizing duties at the suburban Atlanta location.

Fifth District International Representative Clay Leon, the lead negotiator with Frontier, said the new contract guarantees improvements in company-administered health care plans. The biggest win, however, came with the addition of an arbitration system, which allows employees to file a grievance if they feel like they have been unfairly disciplined. Language also was included on how to handle potential layoffs.

“That was very important to them,” Leon said. “They wanted the right to a grievance procedure and arbitration. As a nonunion company, they had no recourse against discipline.”

Local 508 is primarily an inside local, the newly organized Frontier employees its first telecommunications members. Business Manager Alton Mosley said he was happy



Credit: Frontier Communications/YouTube

Frontier Communications workers in right-to-work Georgia are some of the newest members of the IBEW after a successful organizing drive and a signed first contract.

to welcome them to the IBEW. He will rely heavily on Phillips for guidance.

“It’s an adjustment, but when you have a chance to grow the Brotherhood, you don’t say ‘no,’” Mosley said. “I’m thankful I had Clay to lean on during contract negotiations. He’s been through this before. Having a steward like Randy who knows the value of IBEW membership and how to deal with management on site will make my job easier, too.”

It was the third win in as many years at Frontier for IBEW members in the Deep South. Last April, a group of 26 technicians in southern Alabama and the Florida Panhandle approved a first contract and became members of Pensacola, Fla., Local 676. In 2016, a group of 11 Frontier technicians became members of Cookeville, Tenn., Local 1987.

“This is another sign the IBEW can organize in southern states,” said Robert Prunn, an international representative in the Broadcasting & Telecommunications Department. “Workers are seeking out IBEW representation more and more across the country. Clay, Alton and Randy worked hard to reach an agreement that provides added security for our new members well into the future.”

Phillips is pleased his co-workers will learn what he’s known for decades: that IBEW representation makes things better on the job for everyone.

“The IBEW has always protected their people and their membership,” said Phillips, who had been a member of Alton, Ill., Local 649. “It’s a big win for our guys.” ■

In Memoriam

Members for Whom PBF Death Claims were Approved in December 2018

Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death	Local	Surname	Date of Death
1	Dunnegan, R. W.	10/21/18	35	Smith, D. K.	9/18/18	105	Dymond, D.	9/18/18	292	Gustafson, K. J.	11/22/18	520	Nolan, M. P.	11/3/18	816	Henson, R. N.	10/27/18
1	Hubbs, R. D.	11/3/18	38	Davis, J. C.	11/13/18	106	Rose, W. C.	11/3/18	292	Poppe, A. P.	8/10/18	530	Brander, L. P.	10/29/18	816	Middleman, J. G.	10/29/18
1	O'Neill, P. W.	10/10/18	38	Kopowski, D. A.	11/7/18	109	Vanourny, L. E.	10/20/18	292	Shamp, E. J.	10/26/18	530	McLellan, J.	9/10/18	816	Richardson, C. D.	11/18/18
3	Armhold, B.	10/11/18	38	Patton, B.	10/17/18	110	Christofk, R. J.	9/27/18	292	Villa, J. L.	9/20/18	531	Graham, A. P.	10/10/18	817	Patti, M. V.	9/26/18
3	Aviles, R.	10/26/18	38	Shoda, J. F.	10/5/18	110	Turley, F. E.	11/26/18	295	Hunter, K.	10/30/18	532	Fratz, R. T.	10/7/18	852	Landrum, L. W.	10/27/18
3	Barker, D. C.	10/20/18	38	Socoloff, S. J.	11/6/18	111	Quesinberry, O.	9/10/18	295	Sampley, J. D.	8/11/18	545	Ruhnke, H. E.	10/12/18	861	Granger, J. L.	11/17/18
3	Brogli, T. T.	10/28/18	40	Estrada, J.	9/21/17	111	Scantlin, J. G.	9/1/18	301	Armstrong, J. R.	10/26/18	557	Gorte, K. E.	11/6/18	876	Thurman, G. M.	10/13/18
3	Capo, J. M.	9/9/18	41	Brown, R. K.	9/20/18	113	Garner, E. W.	10/30/18	301	McCann, B. A.	9/25/18	558	Brown, C. D.	11/25/18	915	Gilbertson, G. K.	11/10/18
3	Carpenter, K. P.	11/5/18	43	Romeo, F. A.	7/25/18	124	Daugherty, R. D.	9/9/18	303	Vandertang, W.	6/16/18	558	Hood, J. L.	11/9/18	915	Miles, A. A.	8/28/18
3	Crenny, J. F.	8/23/18	46	Book, R. D.	10/20/18	125	Gamma, T. J.	10/31/18	305	Martin, S. A.	11/13/18	558	Newton, D. E.	10/29/18	972	Goodfellow, K. J.	9/19/18
3	Gallagher, T. J.	8/2/18	46	Chadwell, A. M.	10/3/18	126	Kauffman, S. J.	10/15/18	309	Mueth, G. H.	11/9/18	558	Whitehead, A.	11/6/18	993	Hawrys, M. S.	10/31/18
3	Glass, S. C.	9/30/18	46	Green, R. L.	10/1/18	126	Kurtz, M. P.	11/7/18	309	Wynn, L. A.	10/3/18	569	Koenig, D. S.	10/17/18	995	Malone, J. K.	11/10/18
3	Guzzo, R. P.	5/8/18	46	Johnson, D. L.	10/9/18	126	Symmonds, M. D.	9/24/18	317	Hoffman, R. D.	11/18/18	569	Nietzen, G.	11/4/18	1049	Cummings, G. T.	11/7/18
3	Haupt, L. J.	9/10/18	46	Leer, L. L.	8/1/18	126	Tarquino, G.	9/19/18	325	Fowler, R. G.	9/24/17	569	Tran, H. M.	11/12/18	1057	Siefinger, G. E.	9/27/18
3	Heller, J. K.	11/2/18	46	Mueller, R. P.	7/27/18	129	Dias, L. R.	10/15/18	340	Ennis, R. H.	11/1/18	570	Simpson, D. N.	10/15/18	1141	Schmidt, M. H.	10/20/18
3	Kalkbrenner, W. F.	11/22/18	46	Schenkl, J.	8/2/18	130	Freeman, L. H.	2/9/17	340	Henry, J. C.	10/12/18	573	Milone, E. M.	6/18/18	1191	Chaney, S. L.	9/24/18
3	Kiefer, H. J.	7/7/18	46	Tobey, J. A.	9/23/18	130	Wolf, R. A.	10/7/18	340	Sharp, I. G.	11/12/18	584	Chatham, R. P.	8/12/18	1245	McMullan, J. M.	9/14/18
3	Liotta, J. A.	9/17/17	47	Sozio, T. M.	10/25/18	131	Bonhomme, M.	10/16/18	343	Behsman, L. M.	10/10/18	586	Larochelle, C.	9/9/18	1245	Monahan, P. A.	6/11/14
3	Lynagh, R. W.	11/10/18	48	Craker, C. A.	11/1/18	134	Bartolo, S. A.	5/22/17	343	Borth, L. G.	8/23/18	586	Teevens, H.	10/5/18	1249	Mihok, A. J.	11/25/18
3	O'Gara, J. P.	10/20/18	48	Glenn, G. E.	10/23/18	134	Barton, M. G.	10/15/18	349	De Toro, M. A.	8/25/18	595	Bertlin, R. T.	12/29/17	1253	Firczak, J.	11/12/18
3	O'Rourke, D.	2/23/17	48	Loeks, T. D.	10/6/18	134	Cooper, J. B.	9/9/18	351	Bruckler, R. J.	3/7/18	595	Blackburn, G. E.	1/15/18	1307	Willey, T. B.	8/4/18
3	Otoya, J. F.	9/13/18	48	Reyna, R. C.	6/30/18	134	Dobry, T. M.	12/1/18	351	Frazier, M. S.	8/15/18	595	Reid, J. L.	10/26/18	1319	Bernoski, F. D.	11/6/18
3	Pitcoff, P.	5/28/18	51	Schaeffer, M. J.	10/7/18	134	Framberg, D. A.	9/14/18	351	McMahon, R. A.	8/12/18	601	Lamb, W. J.	7/24/18	1377	Dinallo, P. E.	10/14/18
3	Schecht, L. C.	11/9/18	56	Bailey, R. A.	9/2/18	134	Geschrey, F. R.	10/31/18	353	Bittner, R. H.	10/23/18	613	Abernathy, A. B.	9/15/18	1393	Kirkwood, L. S.	11/18/18
3	Sladek, C. M.	11/1/18	56	Solvedt, T. C.	11/15/18	134	Josephson, J. W.	11/14/18	353	Brewster, G. W.	5/5/17	613	Parker, G. C.	9/10/18	1426	Paulson, E. W.	7/3/17
3	Szczepanski, G. G.	9/29/18	58	Burns, M. F.	10/31/18	134	Kimbrew, R. T.	10/20/18	353	Craparotta, L.	10/11/18	613	Powell, D. J.	10/29/18	1455	Ferneau, D. R.	9/7/18
3	Talabert, Z. E.	10/7/18	58	Gleeson, M. B.	10/13/18	134	Munoz, R.	11/2/18	353	Gagliardi, F.	11/14/18	617	Gustas, J. J.	3/1/18	1547	Fuller, M. M.	9/23/18
3	Terach, G.	11/13/18	58	Lamb, G. E.	10/14/18	134	Nolan, M. P.	10/7/18	353	Martin, M. J.	11/5/18	625	Connolly, L. G.	10/14/18	1547	Pascanet, R.	3/13/15
3	Tormey, M. J.	8/20/18	58	McCarthy, J. W.	10/8/18	134	Ross, D. E.	11/1/18	353	McGee, R. N.	9/1/18	639	Palmatier, L. L.	10/28/18	1579	Cumbee, J. D.	8/9/18
3	Williams, R. M.	4/17/18	58	Nellis, R. N.	9/19/18	134	Ryan, E. M.	10/24/18	353	Novis, G.	10/19/18	648	Noble, H.	10/30/18	1687	Bourgeois, J.	7/13/18
5	Furcron, C. W.	9/10/18	58	Sonnenberg, D. A.	9/5/18	134	Saia, A.	11/6/18	353	Oldford, E. S.	10/19/18	654	Travis, E. F.	9/12/18	2038	Hislop, D.	7/29/18
5	Linz, D. R.	6/30/18	58	Szymanski, R. M.	8/4/18	134	Sheffer, R. G.	10/1/18	353	Pivato, J. D.	3/20/18	668	Jones, R. W.	11/2/18	2330	Williams, D. C.	9/4/18
5	Oswald, D. L.	11/5/18	66	Bullard, W. E.	10/12/18	134	Tyrcha, J. M.	10/24/18	353	Raw, R. J.	10/24/18	683	Burns, R. E.	10/2/18	I.O. (26)	Walker, M. H.	11/17/18
6	Diehl, G. R.	10/25/18	66	Fruge, D. J.	10/18/18	134	Witkowski, M. F.	10/28/18	354	Doxey, D. W.	10/5/18	683	Moxley, J. A.	10/3/18	I.O. (45)	Wagner, P. E.	6/21/18
7	Lewenczuk, F.	10/28/18	66	Mao, K.	9/29/18	134	Zaverdas, C.	9/16/18	357	Goodnough, T. C.	11/6/18	683	Warga, C. D.	10/19/18	I.O. (46)	Bowen, S. E.	9/13/18
8	Francis, G. R.	12/11/16	66	Mushinski, R. B.	2/8/18	136	Mitchell, J. W.	11/8/18	357	Maestas, J.	12/2/18	697	Britt, P. H.	10/20/18	I.O. (77)	Magers, W. G.	9/1/18
8	Richmond, H.	9/13/18	66	Tarantino, T.	10/27/18	141	Reynolds, E. A.	10/15/18	357	Pearce, J. R.	11/27/18	697	Miller, R. J.	11/2/18	I.O. (134)	Haragos, C.	10/15/18
8	Schuck, E. M.	10/8/18	68	Burnik, J. M.	6/7/18	159	Holm, R. T.	10/14/18	357	Prather, R. D.	11/1/18	697	White, J. L.	11/9/18	I.O. (134)	Henderson, Q. M.	10/13/18
11	Biendle, R. W.	11/6/18	68	Corona, K. A.	8/14/18	164	Callari, J. N.	11/20/18	357	Roach, D. E.	10/19/18	701	Linzemann, K. J.	1/29/17	I.O. (354)	Latimer, J. B.	9/16/18
11	Carmichael, G. R.	5/3/18	68	Guesnier, L. E.	10/14/18	164	Crane, J. V.	11/8/18	363	DeBerry, B. C.	10/16/18	702	Hale, E. E.	10/6/18	I.O. (363)	Plesak, M. A.	8/30/18
11	Hughes, F. E.	9/1/18	71	Collins, J. A.	12/19/17	164	Mehalesko, G.	3/6/15	363	Smith, C. P.	9/8/18	712	Hill, E. D.	12/1/18	I.O. (401)	Drake, C. R.	5/9/18
11	McGuire, J. B.	6/25/17	71	Reddy, W. E.	10/18/18	175	Baker, T. P.	9/29/18	375	Best, W. J.	10/13/18	712	Powers, M. R.	12/2/18	I.O. (1289)	Rayment, D. W.	7/23/18
11	Neubig, R. B.	7/31/18	73	Holthaus, E. A.	10/21/18	175	Holmes, D. L.	11/20/18	375	Birchak, J. F.	11/28/18	712	Roman, E.	10/13/18	Pens. (1788)	Muller, K.	11/7/18
11	Skenes, J. D.	10/15/18	73	Paxton, J.	10/27/18	175	Shiflett, W. P.	11/5/18	391	Eller, M.	10/10/18	712	Trojak, J. C.	6/27/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Bickler, L. R.	11/4/18
11	Van Denburg, R. C.	9/28/18	76	Bargelt, E. C.	10/3/18	176	Kimak, W. J.	10/25/18	396	Lee, M. J.	10/29/18	714	Ness, A. V.	11/3/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Connors, T. J.	2/27/18
11	Verrell, T. M.	7/14/18	76	Johnston, H. L.	9/24/18	177	Salis, C. M.	9/11/18	402	Parsons, C. G.	10/22/18	716	Hughes, G. P.	8/19/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Enfinger, W. C.	11/11/18
11	Willis, C. J.	9/17/18	76	Seibert, S. S.	9/18/18	197	Lubben, J. E.	11/5/18	405	Mullen, E. W.	10/2/18	716	Iglinsky, E. J.	11/1/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Felice, L.	10/4/18
16	Coomer, D. M.	10/10/18	77	Blair, J. J.	10/30/18	197	Reed, J. P.	5/27/18	420	Ragusa, V. R.	11/13/18	716	Lovelace, C.	10/8/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Flowers, T. W.	4/19/18
16	Farney, V. C.	10/21/18	77	Whitney, R. C.	9/28/18	210	Walther, H. H.	7/19/18	424	McGinnis, E. W.	10/23/18	716	Reinhardt, D. B.	8/31/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Galofaro, A. S.	11/16/18
16	Harper, J. D.	7/25/18	80	Altman, C. F.	10/20/18	212	Bader, F. A.	10/24/18	428	Bull, C. D.	11/6/18	728	Devine, L. F.	9/11/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Greger, W. J.	10/4/18
16	Morrow, T. J.	10/15/18	80	Sutton, J. F.	11/2/18	212	Cardosi, R. T.	10/10/18	429	Hulsey, B. W.	11/16/18	728	Marshall, C. E.	9/18/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Harrison, J. R.	10/20/18
17	Kaercher, R.	6/29/18	82	Bell, J. E.	8/13/18	213	Callender, D. F.	4/30/18	429	Lovell, W. T.	9/23/18	728	McLendon, M. G.	11/20/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Helledy, D. B.	9/19/18
18	Romack, A. L.	7/2/18	82	Blackford, D. J.	11/18/18	213	Finley, W. R.	4/12/18	440	Montandon, J.	9/20/18	728	Smith, J. C.	10/19/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Kaufhold, R. C.	2/25/18
20	Bragg, T. F.	11/17/18	90	O'Connor, D. G.	8/23/18	213	Hales, D. M.	7/20/18	441	Cook, G. E.	8/19/18	728	Szabo, N. J.	8/13/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Lapointe, H. J.	10/25/18
20	Hanes, K. P.	3/4/13	98	McCafferty, J. A.	7/17/18	213	Staves, L. G.	3/25/18	441	Popp, A. J.	11/8/18	728	Szubrowski, C.	11/5/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Messenger, O. D.	11/11/18
20	Sparkman, D. W.	10/22/18	98	McDevitt, T. A.	11/1/18	223	Manchester, C. S.	9/21/18	441	Roldan, A.	9/12/18	743	Starr, K. M.	10/17/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Parker, R. J.	9/16/18
21	Boylan, P. J.	7/22/18	98	Messina, D.	10/29/18	226	Dempewolf, T. J.	7/14/18	446	Holdiness, H. W.	10/8/18	756	Crane, F. M.	10/29/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Rowe, D. A.	10/25/18
22	Bolton, H. A.	10/11/18	98	Ramotowski, J. D.	10/25/18	226	Reichart, T. E.	9/29/18	449	Averett, C. T.	11/20/18	756	Myett, F. W.	5/27/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Schwab, J. L.	9/4/18
24	Mills, R. D.	10/21/18	98	Rogers, J. E.	6/12/18	230	Venoit, L. M.	9/27/16	449	Hayball, N. J.	11/10/18	760	Kennedy, L. M.	6/11/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Shepard, R. L.	10/14/18
25	Andrzejewski, S.	11/15/18	99	Simpson, D. D.	10/28/18	233	McGeever, J. T.	9/19/18	453	Apperson, R. G.	11/6/18	767	Landry, K. P.	9/12/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Shilling, C. W.	8/23/18
25	Burgmaster, J. J.	9/18/18	100	Chirchirillo, J. A.	8/9/18	234	Gunwall, D. R.	8/24/18	465	Davidson, R. D.	11/8/18	769	Ireland, J. D.	9/23/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Therault, F.	3/29/18
26	Cusack, C. T.	11/9/18	102	Napoli, R. T.	10/16/18	234	Wiedemann, N. F.	9/25/18	481	Elliott, J. V.	10/25/18	769	Miller, R. J.	10/25/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Thoms, D. P.	10/31/18
26	Ferrari, E.	10/5/18	103	Franklin, J. E.	11/26/17	245	Vollmer, O. A.	10/14/18	481	Scheib, C. E.	8/16/18	776	Cockcroft, D. M.	9/21/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Vasoli, E. J.	7/9/18
26	Knically, A. K.	10/12/18	103	Kelleher, S. J.	10/16/18	252	McDonald, G. W.	10/19/18	488	Repay, J. J.	2/15/18	776	Jones, R. A.	3/28/18	Pens. (I.O.)	Wilson, J. J.	10/30/18
26																	

LOCAL LINES

New Year, New Look — Major Renovation of Union Hall

L.U. 1 (as,c,ees,ei,em,es,et,fm,i,mt,rts,s,se,spa,st&ws), ST. LOUIS, MO — The IBEW Local 1 union hall is located at 5850 Elizabeth Ave. in St. Louis. Built in 1959, our building was designed by award-winning architect W.A. Sarmiento. His designs changed the public personality of banks and created modern landmarks. “Sarmiento buildings reflected America’s post-war optimism and his own zestful view of the future,” said noted preservationist Chris Nichols, a Los Angeles Magazine editor.

Sixty years later, the building is in the midst of a much-needed total transformation. Bus. Mgr. Frank Jacobs said, “The goal of the renovation is to restore the building to its original luster, along with upgrades to energy efficiency and state-of-the-art technology that will make the membership proud.”

Improvements include: all new plumbing, heating and cooling systems, lights - LED accent lighting, solar panels for energy efficiency, sound system upgrades in the hall, roof and parking lot. “The \$3 million renovation is expected to be completed by October,” said Jacobs.

In addition, the Cultural Resources Office of the St. Louis Planning and Urban Design Agency recently completed an extensive inventory of the city’s mid-century modern, nonresidential architecture built between 1945 and 1975. Over 2,300 structures — commercial, institutional, educational, governmental and industrial buildings — within St. Louis City limits were surveyed. Of these, the IBEW Local 1 union hall is one of 45 to be considered for the National Register nomination as a landmark. The Missouri Advisory Council for Historic Preservation will make a decision this spring.

Jan Bresnan, P.S.

2018 Midterm Election Wins

L.U. 15 (u), DOWNERS GROVE, IL — The Illinois AFL-CIO mounted an all-out effort to evict Bruce Rauner from the governor’s mansion and end his attacks on the middle class.

Local 15 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Terry Sheridan was released to work with IBEW Local 701 Asst. Bus. Mgr. Bill Habel, who was the labor co-coordinator in DuPage County. The get-out-the-vote effort included phone banks, door knocks and mailings. Illinois voters turned out at the highest rate since 1990 to support worker-friendly candidates.

In the governor’s race, Rauner lost to J.B. Pritzker by 660,000 votes and dragged down the entire Republican ticket. Democrats swept the statewide offices and won super-majorities in the General Assembly, picking up three seats in the Senate and five in the House.

In DuPage County, labor-endorsed candidates upset two state Senate incumbents and three state representatives aligned with Rauner, while then-candidates Sean Casten and Lauren Underwood won election to the U.S. House of Representatives, knocking out two anti-labor U.S. congressmen.

Local 15 thanks all the union members who came out and voted for labor-friendly candidates. In solidarity.

[Editor’s Note: To read more, see news articles posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles. They include: “IBEW Members ‘All in’ for Midwest Governor’s Races,” Nov. 5, 2018; “Election 2018: A Message From International President Lonnie R. Stephenson,” Nov. 7; and “The Voices of Working People Were Heard Loud and Clear,” Nov. 9.]

Sam Studer, P.S.

Thanksgiving Meals Provided — IBEW Community Service

L.U. 21 (catv,em,govt,mt,ptc&t), DOWNERS GROVE, IL — For the past six years, Local 21 members have become more involved in community service activities and fundraising. In November, we learned that members working at the AT&T Chicago Cottage Grove garage were donating Thanksgiving meals to needy families in the community where they work. In 2017 they fed 100 families, and in 2018 they wanted to double that number. To expand on their previous success, our members covered all of their bases. They worked with local managers, went to other garages, union meetings, and asked that our local reach out to all our members for donations. The organizers found needy families by working with area churches and asking maintenance men in buildings where their customers live to let residents know about the Thanksgiving meals they were providing.

On the day of the event, our members blessed the food then greeted families lined up outside of their work location, walked them inside to pick up their meals, and, most importantly, built a bond with their community by making a positive change.



Local 21 members organized a community service event to provide Thanksgiving meals to over 200 needy families who live near the Cottage Grove AT&T garage workplace.

This was one of the most impressive events ever put together by our members. When asked their advice to others who may want to plan an event like this they said: “To follow your heart, if you believe you can do it, you can do it. If your intentions are pure, you can plant the seed and your expectations can be exceeded.” This is great advice for all IBEW members who want to make a difference in the communities where they live and work.

Bob Przybylinski, R.S.



Jonathan Sherrard (right), Local 37 Exec. Board member-Central Unit chair, presents a cheque to Fredericton Feed a Family campaign.

Strengthening Communities

L.U. 37 (em,o&u), FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA — Just in time for Christmas, Local 37, on behalf of its 2,200 members, made eleven \$370 donations to food banks across the province of New Brunswick. This is the seventh year that we’ve been able to help support local food banks, with donations totaling over \$23,000.

The funds were made available through our Community Outreach Program, which has a goal to help organizations that are making a positive impact on issues that are important to the IBEW, and to support causes that matter to our members, and to the communities they call home.

In addition to the food banks, this program has enabled Local 37 and its members to provide support to a variety of activities and initiatives such as youth athletics, mental health awareness, aboriginal edu-

cation, bursaries, playground construction, local arts and cultural performances, as well efforts to promote careers in the skilled trades.

Continuing in the spirit of giving, Local 37 did something new this past holiday season. Instead of purchasing small token gifts of appreciation for all members, an amount equivalent to cost of the gifts will be divided amongst registered New Brunswick charities — as decided by 37 randomly selected members of the local.

Ross Galbraith, B.M./F.S.

Labor Council Awards Dinner — Apprentices Serve Community

L.U. 43 (em,i&rts), SYRACUSE, NY — The Central New York Labor Council, AFL-CIO, held its 11th annual Samuel Gompers Distinguished Service Award Dinner on Oct. 26, 2018, at the Hart’s Hill Inn, Whitesboro, NY.

Local 43’s second-year apprentice class was honored for their continuous charitable work throughout their careers.

In keeping with the tradition, in December the first-year apprentice class delivered over 1,400



Local 43 first-year apprentices, led by Instructor Rich Shopland, delivered items to the Johnson Park Center food pantry.

Submitting Local Lines Articles

Local Lines are printed monthly on an alternating even/odd schedule. They can be submitted by designated press secretaries or union officers via email (locallines@ibew.org) or U.S. Mail. We have a 200-word limit. We make every effort to assist local unions in publishing useful and relevant local union news; however, all final content decisions are based on the editor’s judgment. Our guidelines and deadlines are available at www.ibew.org/media-center/IBEW-News-Media-Center/Submitting-Local-Lines. Please email or call the Media Department at (202) 728-6291 with any questions.

Trade Classifications			
(as) Alarm & Signal	(et) Electronic Technicians	(mps) Motion Picture Studios	(rts) Radio-Television Service
(ars) Atomic Research Service	(fm) Fixture Manufacturing	(nst) Nuclear Service Technicians	(so) Service Occupations
(bo) Bridge Operators	(govt) Government	(o) Outside	(s) Shopmen
(cs) Cable Splicers	(i) Inside	(p) Powerhouse	(se) Sign Erector
(catv) Cable Television	(it) Instrument Technicians	(pet) Professional, Engineers & Technicians	(spa) Sound & Public Address
(c) Communications	(lctt) Line Clearance Tree Trimming	(ptc) Professional, Technical & Clerical	(st) Sound Technicians
(cr) Cranemen	(lpt) Lightning Protection Technicians	(rr) Railroad	(t) Telephone
(ees) Electrical Equipment Service	(mt) Maintenance	(rtb) Radio-Television Broadcasting	(tm) Transportation Manufacturing
(ei) Electrical Inspection	(mo) Maintenance & Operation	(rtm) Radio-Television Manufacturing	(u) Utility
(em) Electrical Manufacturing	(mow) Manufacturing Office Workers		(uow) Utility Office Workers
(es) Electric Signs	(mar) Marine		(ws) Warehouse and Supply

Efforts are made to make this list as inclusive as possible, but the various job categories of IBEW members are too numerous to comprehensively list all.

pounds of food to the Syracuse Rescue Mission's Food Service Center, which provides three free meals a day every day of the year for anyone who needs one. Local 43 apprentices also delivered another 700 pounds of food to the Johnson Park Center in Utica.

The funds used to purchase these donations were raised through The Central New York Electricians Training Alliance (CNYETA) Cans for Kids bottle and can drive as well as donations from IBEW members and our partners at the Finger Lakes Chapter of NECA. A great job by all!

Gene Townsend, P.S.

2018 Wildfire Restoration

L.U. 47 (lctt,mo,o,u&uow), DIAMOND BAR, CA — Greetings and good wishes for a happy 2019!

In November 2018, the Woolsey Fire near Thousand Oaks was a huge disaster. Three were killed in the blaze, which destroyed 96,949 acres and over 1,500 structures in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Our prayers are with all wildfire victims throughout California, including those affected by the Camp Fire in northern California. IBEW crews worked tirelessly to restore power. Thanks to all!

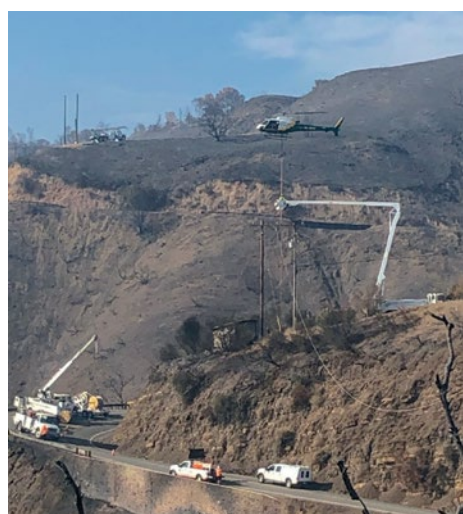
Anaheim bargaining continues for the new engineering group, and as well at Utilquest and Colton. At Irvine Ranch Water District, we reached an agreement for the General Unit with a 4 percent wage increase, which was ratified by 91 percent. Negotiations continue for the supervisors. We also ratified a successor agreement with Abengoa Solar by 92 percent.

At press time, Southern California Edison (SCE) bargaining is progressing for program writers, outage coordinators and schedulers for a first contract. We lost a NLRB election at Berkshire Hathaway in Imperial Valley by 92-49.

We're sad to report the death of Local 47 Bros. Mark Gilstrap, Robert Jennings, Robert Freitag and Tim Sozio, as well as Bro. Kenneth Anderson (Local 1245) and Bro. Robert Davidson (Local 465), who were working in Local 47's jurisdiction.

Work safe and buy union!

Mitch Smith, P.S.



IBEW crews, including Local 47 members, working to restore power after the Woolsey Fire struck southern California.

Illinois Governor's Committee On 'Powering Illinois' Future'

L.U. 51 (catv,lctt,o,ptc,rtb,t,u&uow), SPRINGFIELD, IL — Local 51 Pres. Walter Westfall Jr. will be retiring in early March from Ameren Illinois. Bro. Westfall was initiated into the IBEW in 1978 and has been a strong union advocate, not only as our president, but also as a longtime steward and a key role player in contract negotiations. We wish Wally and his wife, Melanie, all the best in their new endeavors!

Bus. Mgr. John Johnson was selected to co-chair

newly elected Gov. J.B. Pritzker's recently formed Powering Illinois' Future Committee. This committee is made up of several subject-matter experts and will advise and guide the Pritzker-Stratton administration. "This committee will be the first step in making sure the labor movement is an integral part of moving Illinois to a clean-energy economy and reinforces [Gov. Pritzker's and Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton's] commitment to putting Springfield back on the side of working families," said Bus. Mgr. Johnson.

Local 51 recently awarded an IBEW 65-year pin to Richard "Bud" Johnson and a 60-year pin to James Heckman. Congratulations and thank you, brothers!

Karlene Knisley, B.R.



Local 51 retired tree trimmer James Heckman (right) receives his IBEW 60-year service pin, presented by representative Wes Heckman (no relation).

Strong Work Picture; New Five-Year Contract

L.U. 55 (c,lctt,o&u), DES MOINES, IOWA — Happy new year to everyone. We held our annual Christmas party on Dec. 14, with over 200 in attendance. We had a great time and Santa visited with the kids. Thanks to the office staff for making it so much fun for everyone!

Our outside construction members recently settled a new five-year contract that includes a total wage increase of 4 percent each year. We're also establishing a new "substation technician" apprenticeship, which will better train our members to be more knowledgeable and to work more safely in that position.

Our Local 55 Recognition Dinner will be March 9. It's going to be a little different this year and it's an event we all look forward to. I hope to see you there.

Our local will sponsor a golf tournament on June 29 to benefit Cradling New Life. Watch for the flyers to be sent out in April; mark the date on your calendar and get ready for a good time and a good cause!

I hope everyone is always keeping safety on their mind. Don't ever assume something — if in doubt, ask a question. Don't put your hands or your feet where you can't see them. Think before you act and always plan out your work.

Our local is very blessed to have lots of work, so if you're travelling and looking for a job, give our office a call. (A shout out to an old friend, Lee W. of St. Louis.) We're at record numbers of members working in our jurisdiction.

If anyone has a suggestion for an article, let someone in the office know and they can get it to me. Until the next article, work safely and stay healthy!

Myron Green, P.S.



Local 55's annual Christmas party was a great success.

Highlights of 2018 — A Year of Successes

L.U. 103 (cs&i), BOSTON, MA — As 2018 ended and the calendar turned, we've had an opportunity to reflect on what a terrific year it was in Local 103, as highlighted by Bus. Mgr. Lou Antonellis' yearly wrap up.

Local 103 members enjoyed a very prosperous year with full employment and travelers working; and more than 10 million man-hours were reported. Our Trust Funds are larger and healthier than ever before allowing us to issue a 13th pension check to our retirees. Local 103 was recognized as the No. 1 local in the country at the Membership Development Conference for organizing 1,100 new members and 23 new contractors. We had our largest and most diverse apprentice class in our history with more women and minorities than ever before. We're working on new and exciting projects while winning back work in key areas and markets that had been lost in years past. We've created new partnerships with some of the most recognizable and iconic brands in the city, like the 2018 world champion Boston Red Sox. We also introduced a new app for our members, allowing for better communication and the ability to pay dues online.

While 2018 proved to be a great year for Local 103, we look forward to an even more productive and prosperous 2019!

Jimmy Fleming, P.S.



Local 113 Bus. Mgr. Brian Bradley (left) presents retirement watches to: Ignacio Barron, Steve Johnson, Hammarlund "August" Low, Tim Stites, and Salvadore Munguia.

'Optimistic for 2019' Politically Active & Aware

L.U. 113 (ees,em,i,mo&o), COLORADO SPRINGS, CO — On Dec. 7, Local 113 hosted its annual Christmas party to a very packed house. It was wonderful to see so many people, new members and "old-timers" alike, having such a grand time! The holiday party is a time when we can reminisce with fellow brothers and sisters, some of whom we may not have an opportunity to see very often.

Not too surprising is that after a good few years, we seem to have some not-so-good ones; as of this writing, there seems to be somewhat of a slowdown with a couple of the larger jobs winding down. We are still optimistic for a good 2019.

It was mentioned a while back that we all need to be more politically aware, and that is never more important than right now. Recently there have been attacks on our pensions, multiemployer-type pension plans, like the one we the IBEW have in place. The attacks are baseless and appear to single out unions in general. Let's all stay on top of this issue. [Editor's Note:

To read more, see December 2018 news article, "IBEW Leaders Mobilize on Capitol Hill to Kill Pension Attack, For Now," posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles.]

As 2018 came to a close, we were able to give out a few more retiree watches. Congratulations to the following

brothers on their retirement: Ignacio Barron, Steve Johnson, Hammarlund "August" Low, Tim Stites and Salvadore Munguia.

Brian Putnam, P.S.

Safety Summit & Training; Casino Night Fundraiser

L.U. 125 (lctt,o,t&u), PORTLAND, OR — Bus. Mgr. Travis Eri and the Executive Board are pleased to announce that the local will offer shop steward and unit chair/unit recorder training for this year in conjunction with the IBEW/NECA Safety Summit. On April 18, the Safety Summit will be held followed by Local 125's training on April 19. Your business representative will be providing more information in the coming weeks. If you are a shop steward, unit chair or unit recorder, we encourage you to attend these engaging and educational events.

As we launch 2019, our commitment to support the Oregon Burn Center at Legacy Emanuel is stronger than ever. To launch our fundraiser for the year, the 17th Annual Casino Night will be held March 16. This adults-only event also generates significant donations for a local food bank.

"I'm proud of the service and support that our members provide to our communities," said Bus. Mgr. Eri. "We know that the solidary, commitment and generosity of our membership continues to help communities thrive everywhere we live and work, so we hope you will continue to support our fundraising and fellowship efforts."

Marcy Grail, A.B.M.

Holiday Festivities

L.U. 145 (em,i,o,rts,se,spa&u), ROCK ISLAND, IL — Our local hosted very merry December festivities last year! The 2nd Annual Breakfast with Santa was held Dec. 8. The event took over the union hall and was a huge success! Fresh pancakes, eggs, bacon and sausage were served by our wonderful "elves" (a.k.a. volunteers). When Santa Claus arrived, he was greeted by lots of excited children! The boys and girls waited in line for their turn to sit with Santa to share their Christmas wishes, and then they received a special wrapped toy! Pictures were taken with Santa, and even moms, dads, grandmas and grandpas took part in a family picture! The kids also enjoyed a coloring contest. You won't want to miss the 3rd Annual Breakfast with Santa in 2019!

After the successful Breakfast with Santa event, the local hosted a Retiree Christmas Luncheon at the union hall on Dec. 10 and it was a huge success! In total, 200 retirees and their guests came together on a beautiful winter afternoon at the union hall to enjoy food and fellowship! We were also fortunate to have Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson and his wife, Dawn, attend the luncheon. Retirees reminisced about the



At Local 145's Annual Breakfast with Santa: Executive Board Chair Cindy Burke, Bob Shadden and Santa Claus.

LOCAL LINES

past, got caught up with one another and took photos with their past tool partners. We hope everyone who attended had as much fun as we did serving you that day! It was our pleasure!

In solidarity,

Cory Bergfeld, B.M.

'All In - To Win' Rally

L.U. 159 (i), MADISON, WI — Gearing up for 2018 mid-term elections last year, Local 159 Bus. Mgr. Mike Grassy hosted the "All In — To Win" political rally organized by Int. Rep. Shawn Reents and IBEW lead organizer Kim Moon. Volunteers were enlisted from IBEW locals all across the state to support the function.

The Aug. 29 event, held at the Labor Temple in Madison, included guest speakers IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, Sixth District Int. Vice Pres. David J. Ruhmkorff, and Wisconsin AFL-CIO Pres. Stephanie Bloomingdale, along with key political figures including U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, state Sen. Mark Miller, and then-candidate for lieutenant governor Mandela Barnes.

Each focused on the importance of getting our members out to vote in order to preserve our union values by supporting union-friendly candidates. Afterward, door-to-door canvassing was led by Int. Pres. Lonnie Stephenson, phone banking was led by Int. Vice Pres. Ruhmkorff, and other volunteers participated with the "honk and wave" events.

Thank you to all who participated in making this event a huge success!

[Editor's Note: Newly elected Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers and Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes won election to office on Nov. 6, 2018. To read more, see Nov. 7 news story, "Election 2018: A Message From International President Lonnie R. Stephenson," posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles.]

Mike Grassy, B.M./F.S.



Local 159 Bus. Mgr. Mike Grassy (left), Int. Rep. Shawn Reents and Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson participate in November 2018 election season rally at The Labor Temple in Madison, WI.

Membership Active & Involved

L.U. 197 (em&i), BLOOMINGTON, IL — We happily made it through the winter holidays. We would like to thank our members who volunteered their community service and all those who helped make the seasonal festivities a great success.

We are proud of our apprentices who took up a collection of items to send to U.S. troops stationed overseas. We thank the apprentices for gathering and

donating items, and we thank all our members who generously donated. The generosity of our members is another reason for us to be proud to be union.

In December we held our annual Service Pin Ceremony and Christmas Party. Thank you to all who attended and those who received service pins. The food was plentiful, drinks were cold, the atmosphere was festive, and everyone had a good time.

We would also like to thank all those who donated their time and talents to lighting up the Festival of Trees, including: Don Armstrong, Keith Ashenbrenner, Matt Kryouac, Larry Mathis, Ken McLean, Greg Potter, Perry Watson, Tom Willan, Rich Veitengruber, and Wilcox Electric. The Festival of Trees is a fundraiser for the Baby Fold, a local charity that helps kids in need. We are proud to have participated in the event for 20-plus years.

Remember to get involved in the local and stay involved!

Mike Raikes, Pres.

IBEW Member Wins Election To Seat on County Board

L.U. 309 (i,lctt,mo,mt,o,rts,spa&u), COLLINSVILLE, IL — Local 309 organizer Chris Hankins was elected on Nov. 6, 2018, to the Madison County Board. He won election with 61 percent of the vote. Chris had to resign from the Pontoon Beach Village Board after serving for almost eight years. Chris and Mayor Mike Pagano (a retired Local 309 wireman) have been instrumental in securing practically all electrical work within the village to be done as union work.

A big thank you to the Illinois State Conference for its financial support for Chris' election campaign. Also, thanks to the many locals that helped with the campaign. We can only hope that this is merely a stepping stone to higher office.

Work on the Inside Branch has slowed somewhat while Outside Construction remains steady. The upcoming year looks to remain solid.

Have a healthy, happy and safe 2019.

Scott Tweedy, A.B.M.

Participation is Key — Strength in Solidarity

L.U. 313 (i&spa), WILMINGTON, DE — A huge group of retired members came out in force for their December Retirees Meeting. Keeping up with each other and the happenings of the local help make us strong and unified. We owe the retired men and women a lot of credit, and when they stay involved, we all benefit.

Last year, we helped squash a right-to-work proposal, lowered hours to qualify for Health & Welfare benefits, and helped keep everyone working who wanted to work. This year, we hope the work picture will stay strong and will look for more ways to improve.

Our property will be going through some changes due to a road-widening project happening in front of our union building. We could use some advice from our own construction professionals to help with modifications.

Delta Dental and Teledoc are two new add-ons that need our attention. We also need to work on



At Local 313 retirees meeting in December.

smoothing out some real rough spots with the Health & Welfare. We plan to have a new advisory group on board by the time this goes to print. We will be counting on them to speed up the progress.

The key is staying healthy, and we are here to listen and help. Good tips are wanted, and we are looking for someone to head up the "Health" section for our new website.

So, with all of this in mind, the Brotherhood, the Building, the Health & Welfare, and the Website teams will need to be put into play in 2019. Interested parties are invited to inquire for further information.

Bruce W. Esper, P.S.

Local Celebrates 40 Years — Annual Awards Banquet

L.U. 343 (i,spa&st), LE SUEUR, MN — Happy St. Patrick's Day, brothers and sisters! As we look forward to spring, a long-term project is coming to a close. The Mankato Energy Center turbine/generator addition began over two years ago. The project peaked last fall at seven days a week with over 100 electricians representing a dozen states and probably a couple dozen locals. Thank you to all the IBEW members who helped make the project a success.

Next month, Local 343 will celebrate 40 years. It was chartered April 1, 1979, in Le Sueur, MN. Come join the party at the annual awards banquet. We will be honoring our retirees, recognizing members' years of service, and congratulating the apprentice graduates. Check the website for details.

Ten members passed away in 2018: Samuel Parker, Alan Schwab, Joseph Jirasek, Charles Harty, Daniel Solberg, Jessie Howard, Joseph Nefzger, Michael D. Smith, Lyle Borth, and Kenneth Hull. Kenny Hull was Local 343's first business manager. We remember those who came before us.

Keep America beautiful; buy "Made in the USA."

Tom Small, P.S.

Community Service Activities

L.U. 347 (em,i,mt,rtb,rts&spa), DES MOINES, IOWA — Well, here in Iowa we are in a political lull in

the action. The 2018 midterm elections are over with no meaningful results that we can take to the bank. Shortly, we expect to be inundated with candidates running for the 2020 elections. So, it's quiet at the moment. Enough on that.

Autumn of 2018 was busy with: political events, arranging and connecting the Jolly Holiday Lights display, collecting 15 boxes of gifts for Toys for Tots, and throwing a Christmas Party for the kids. Local 347 likes to keep busy socially, with community service projects, and on the job.

It's been a long time coming, but there is some recognition in the community that IBEW 347 is invested in Iowa for the long term. This is all well and good but there is a lot more work to do. Rather than pat ourselves on the back, we roll up our sleeves and get to work on the next project.

Work in the area is good at the time of this writing. The agricultural sector, however, is all question marks at this point. The local has 140 travelers working with local hands on three data centers, three large projects in downtown Des Moines and a bounty of common commercial work. Looking ahead, there could be a new airport terminal project at the Des Moines International Airport.

On March 9, we'll be seeing you at the Local 347 Pin Party. Let's show up for our brothers and sisters celebrating these milestones.

Mike Schweiger, P.S.



IBEW Local 347 members collected 15 boxes of holiday gifts for a Toys for Tots drive.



At Local 197 Christmas Party/Service Pin Ceremony, Bus. Mgr. Rich Veitengruber (far left) and Pres. Mike Raikes (seventh from right) congratulate service award recipients: Don Armstrong, Brian Armstrong, Jake Knobloch, Larry Mathis, Randy Payne, Michael Franks, Bob Branom, Laurie Garrett, John Weber, James D. Rexroat, Perry Watson, Lance Reece, Adam Stubblefield, Elmer Alsene, Darric Peasley, John Livey, Jake Goar, Zeke Paire, Daryl Erschen and Robert Black.

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Local 351 Christmas Committee members: back row, standing, Conrad Schaffer, Joe Trumbetti, Ray Listman, Steve Dimatteo, Rick Signor, John Gray, Chuck Della Vecchia, Don Morgan, Jim Bresh, Wayne Bumm; front row, Dan Cosner with son Danny Cosner Jr., Santa Jim Ruff, Bill Hosey, Ed Reiser and Natalia Del Beato.

2018 Holiday Party

L.U. 351 (c,cs,i,ltt,mt,o,se,spa&t), FOLSOM, NJ — On Dec. 9, Local 351 held our annual children's Christmas party. It's always wonderful seeing our members having such a great time with their families. Every year, this event gets bigger and better. We wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Daniel P. Cosner, B.M./F.S.

'Thanks to All Volunteers' — 2018 Midterm Election Gains

L.U. 357 (c,i,mt&se), LAS VEGAS, NV — We would like to thank members who came out and knocked on doors, phone banked and voted during the 2018 midterm election season. With your help, brothers and sisters, we were able to make our state labor friendly! Good job, everyone!

Also, our volunteers once again made the local's annual picnic a resounding success last year.

The retirees Christmas dinner and the children's Christmas party were also great events, thanks in large part to all the hard work our members put in to

make those events a success. Thank you to everyone for all that you do.

Jennifer Tabor, P.S.



At the site of a solar field project in Las Vegas are: AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Liz Shuler (left), journey person Theresa Stafford, IBEW Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson, and Local 357 Bus. Mgr. Al Davis.

Holiday Season Events

L.U. 375 (catv,ees,et,govt,i&mo), ALLENTOWN, PA — In December, we had another wonderful children's Christmas party, but this one marked the first at our new address. For our pre-Santa entertainment, we had a magician and, as always, the children and adults alike were amazed by his tricks. Of course, Santa then stole the show as he told the children a story and gave them each a Christmas present. Bro. Bill Miller's daughters were our elves, and they did a great job assisting Santa.

A week later we had our third annual adult's Christmas party, which again grew in attendance because it's such a wonderful event. Bro. Tony Hodge and Holiday Sounds did a magnificent job setting the stage with the music and festive lighting — and there was also a photo booth, which was a huge hit. 2018 had a great finish and we are excited for what 2019 holds.

Although the holiday season is one of joy, here at Local 375 we were deeply saddened by the December passing of Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the late Pres. Hill for his vision and dedication to our I.B. of E.W.

Justin Grimshaw, A.B.M.

auctioned off a racehorse this year for the cause.

During the holiday season, fifth-year apprentice Chris Scott started a new tradition, raising over \$8,000 for the Salvation Army's "Adopt an Angel" program providing Christmas toys for over 240 children.

Chuck Huddleston, B.M./F.S.



Local 429 office staff mark the 2018 holiday season at the union hall: from left, Dana Gillihan, Terri Myatt and Jada Sullivan.

Recognition for Office Staff

L.U. 429 (em,i,ltt,o,ptc,rtb&u), NASHVILLE, TN — In the spirit of the recent winter holiday season, Local 429 would like to recognize a very intricate part of our local. So often, we don't realize all the work that goes into the running of a local union, and even less do we recognize who does a lot of the behind-the-scenes business of our local.

Local 429 would like to recognize our administrative assistants for their work throughout the year, and especially for their hard work on decorations at the holiday season. From the home-made wreaths to the decorative trees, our office staff show their artistic talents for all our local union members and guests to see and enjoy. They put a lot of effort into our local's holiday decorations, just as they do for their every day

jobs. We are thankful and lucky to have these ladies on staff for what they do in their professional roles. We are very proud and blessed by their professionalism, creativity and extra effort in helping make Local 429 special occasions and events a great success.

During holiday seasons and every day, the local and officers want to say "thank-you" to the local's administrative assistants. Without them, the local wouldn't be what it is today.

Mark Poole, A.B.M.

Strong Work Picture

L.U. 449 (catv,em,i,o,rtb,rt,spa&u), POCAHELLO, IDAHO — Greetings, brothers and sisters. Our work picture has been strong. We have had open calls and have been dispatching out from Book 2. It looks to continue for quite some time for both inside and outside construction. We have seen good growth this year.

I would like to ask that we take the time to welcome our new members to the IBEW and show them what the Brotherhood is all about.

Congratulations to our recently retired Bro. David Wadsworth.

With regret we report the passing of two members. In memoriam: Bros. Norman Hayball and Chris Averett. These brothers will be truly missed. Our heartfelt condolences go out to their families and friends.

*Craig McDonald
Organizer/Mbr. Dev. Rep.*



At the Local 375 children's Christmas party, Santa delights his audience.

IBEW 413 Community Volunteers

L.U. 413 (i&mo), SANTA BARBARA, CA — Local 413 members, including Local 413 retirees Peter Ryan, Steve Lopez, Brad Paola, Mike Fitts, Dion Smith and Barry White, have donated several weekends working at the Carpinteria Habitat for Humanity project.

These members and other members have worked on several Habitat for Humanity projects in the past several years. Our members and retirees have also climbed and decorated the 100-foot tall "Tree of Light" in Santa Barbara for over 90 years.

Pres. Matt Russell has climbed the tree for over 20 years, and Sam Wellford has climbed the last few years. Santa Barbara Mayor Cathy Murillo and City Councilman Oscar Gutierrez joined us on Dec. 3 for the ceremonial lighting of the tree.

Our Retirees Club, led by Chmn. Bob Russell, has raised money matched by Local 413 members for the Unity Shoppe for many years, too. In fact, Bob



Local 413 Tree of Light installation crew on Dec. 2, 2018.

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Council Bluffs Members Give Back to Community

L.U. 499 (u), DES MOINES, IOWA — Christmas time is always a time for giving. The members in Council Bluffs have an annual tradition of giving to those in need around the holiday season. John Faust (crew leader lineman) organizes fundraisers throughout the year to raise the money that is used to purchase food to give to those in need.

In December 2018, the members were able to donate 15 boxes of food. Those boxes are filled with a whole ham, potatoes, bread, peanut butter, jelly and pie, just to name a few of the items. The members deliver the boxes of food themselves to those in need, who are referred to them by churches or work interactions. Local 499 is proud of the generosity of our members in Council Bluffs!

Sarah Faber, R.S.



Des Moines, Iowa, Local 499 members reporting from Council Bluffs deliver holiday boxes of food to needy families. From left: journeyman linemen Bob Decker, Ken Leitz, Matt Martin and Rick Vanderheiden.

Welcome to New Apprentices

L.U. 531 (i), LAPORTE, IN — I hope everyone enjoyed a great winter holiday season. Last year brought the loss of some members and friends, both personal and professional, but there is always the other, brighter side of the coin for which we are grateful, whether it's new apprentices at work or newborn babies for members and their families.

At this writing, the work picture for the local has slowed slightly for the winter months — but the springtime is looking promising again for the commercial/industrial work as well as the residential market.

At the December meeting, we took in some new apprentices, including 18 new inside apprentices, seven residential apprentices, and five voice/data apprentices. These are good numbers for our new membership as well as for the growth of our local in general.

I would also like to take a moment to remember those members we lost last year: Gene Morphis, Roland Morehouse, Gene "Bigfoot" Levendowski, Norbert Borzych, Greg Rodgers, John Crakes and Alec Graham. Our brothers will be missed.

Jeremy Woolever, P.S.



New apprentices were inducted into Local 531 at the December 2018 meeting.



Local 569 membership made contributions worth nearly \$5,000 to the Annual Diaper Drive to support families in need.

IBEW 569 Gives Back To Support Working Families

L.U. 569 (i,mar,mt,rts&spa), SAN DIEGO, CA — IBEW 569 is proud of our efforts to give back and support working families!

We recently supported families in need with a \$10,000 contribution to the Labor Food & Toy Drive. Additionally, we supported the annual Diaper Drive with California Assembly member Lorena Gonzalez by making a contribution of diapers worth nearly \$5,000! It was great to see so many generously participate in the season of giving.

We congratulate the Local 569 Alianza club for putting together our first Posada event — bringing together union families and community members in celebration and solidarity. Plans are to make this an annual event.

Also, IBEW 569 Bus. Mgr. Nick Segura spoke before the California Air Resources Board in favor of the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) rule — which will advance clean air, IBEW jobs, and climate action! The board voted in our favor. This means additional infrastructure will be built to charge electric buses and will put thousands of IBEW electricians to work.

Finally, IBEW 569 welcomes Cristina Marquez as our new JATC apprenticeship outreach coordinator! Congratulations, Cristina — we look forward to your efforts to expand apprenticeship opportunities to more youth and community members.

We're heading into 2019 as a stronger local thanks to you as members and your hard work! Together, we will continue to make a difference and build better communities.

Gretchen K. Newsom, P.S./Organizer

'Job Calls Coming In'

L.U. 611 (catv,es,govt, i,lc tt,o,spa,t&u), ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Last year's annual Children's Christmas Party was attended by hundreds of IBEW members and their families and was such a huge success that we may have to find a larger venue in the future. Thank you to the Christmas commit-

tee for once again doing an outstanding job.

As of this writing, there has been a steady stream of calls coming in and there is word of Intel manning up in the near future.

We send our condolences to the friends and family of Bro. Allan J. LaRue, a member who recently passed away.

Darrell J. Blair, P.S.



Families enjoy Local 611's annual Children's Christmas Party.

Festive Holiday Luncheon; 70-Year Service Award

L.U. 613 (em,i,o,rts&spa), ATLANTA, GA — It was good to see the large crowd at IBEW Local 613's Christmas retirees luncheon. As always it provides a great opportunity for our active and retired members to get together and catch up on the events of their lives. In the Christmas spirit prizes were raffled off and good food was served by the staff of Local 613. We had a moment of silence for those who passed in 2018. Their many years of service and fellowship helped build our local to what we have become today.

It was an honor for Bus. Mgr. Kenny Mullins to present an IBEW 70-year pin to retired former business manager Harry Bexley. Bro. Bexley, a World War II veteran, was the business manager of Local 613 from 1955-1988. The local holds a retiree luncheon every quarter and all members are encouraged to attend and get to know these brothers and sisters and gain from their knowledge and experience.

James Williams, P.S.



Local 613 Bus. Mgr. Kenny Mullins (right) presents 70-year service award to retired former business manager Harry Bexley.



IBEW Local 617 membership assisted with Wreaths Across America event to honor fallen veterans.

Strong & Active Membership

L.U. 617 (c,i,mo&st), SAN MATEO, CA — The gifts of this past year have given us much to be grateful for. As we look back it has been the best of times, as our work picture has exceeded all expectations. Much thanks to all the members and travelers who man our work.

2018 was an event-filled year for Local 617, starting with our Super Bowl party and gumbo cookoff, and ending with member participation in the Wreaths Across America project in December to honor

fallen veterans. Our membership, along with the support of our many clubs, groups and organizations, has been stronger than ever.

Our local's 110 anniversary celebration brought longtime friends together with a years-of-service pin party. Other 2018 activities included events such as: a day at Great America, the community Fourth of July parade, the union picnic, Veterans/Halloween fall fest,

and the Christmas party. These local union activities and events brought us closer as a union family.

The Keep the Veterans Warm coat drive, as well as food and toy drives, help us support those less fortunate in our community. Membership participation in San Mateo Labor Council activities, labor and town council meetings, and career days keep us involved in our community.

Many thanks to our hard-working business manager, staff and administrators. Lastly, let us remember our brothers and sisters who have traveled on.

Let us stand strong as we move forward into 2019.

Kenn Perfitt, P.S.

Apprenticeship Graduates; Holiday Spirit of Generosity

L.U. 625 (c,ees,em,i,it,mar&mt), HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA — We recently lost Bro. Alex Dotten, 64, who passed away on Nov. 27, 2018. Our sympathy goes out to his family.

Congratulations to Bro. Geoff Langill and Bro. Bruce Collier on their recent retirement.

Congratulations to the following members on recently completing the apprenticeship program and receiving their Certificate of Qualification: Bros. Robert MacLellan, Jacob Timmons, Jeff Lapierre, Cody Boucher and Jeremy Wentzell.

On Dec. 1, 2018, we had our Annual Family Christmas Party at Hatfield Farm. We enjoyed a sleigh ride, and 143 kids attended the party and received gifts from Santa. On Dec. 15, we had our Annual Christmas Dinner & Dance with the biggest turnout yet of 383 members and guests! I would like to thank all members for the generous donations to Feed Nova Scotia. With their help we were able to donate over 75 kilograms of food.

Brad Wood, B.R./Organizer

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2018 — Year in Review; IBEW Service to Community

L.U. 627 (u), FORT PIERCE, FL — Happy new year, brothers and sisters!

Looking back on 2018, our local is extremely proud of the membership's commitment and support of our community affairs fundraising efforts and beneficence. Year after year, the contributions collected for our Community Affairs Fund have enabled the local to support various youth-based support programs as well as many youth sports, and skills-development organizations. In 2018 alone, over \$18,000 was donated to area community programs in the name of IBEW Local 627.

We would like to thank all those individuals who have supported our efforts in the past, and we invite and encourage the continued support of these efforts in the future. This year we will be hosting our 23rd Annual Ironman Fundraising Tournament in May, our 7th Annual T-Shirt Sale Fundraiser, and a few other fundraising events.

Brothers and sisters, here's to a safe and productive 2019! Please continue to be your brothers' keeper and represent our union's Code of Excellence with pride, skill and solidarity. Safety & solidarity!

Fernando Salcedo, P.S.

stewards Bros. Keith Henning, Lenny LaForgia and Lou Mermini, along with chief stewards Bros. Andy Newman and Pat Glover, as well as company management.

The monument was designed to honor members in the garage who served in the armed forces. Each branch of the military was represented with a decorative stone placed around a U.S. flagpole.

Suzanne Wallin, R.S.



Local 827 members employed by Verizon helped construct a monument to honor military veterans.

IBEW Members Volunteer — Habitat for Humanity Project



IBEW Local 697 members employed by Sweney Electric partnered with the signatory contractor to provide community service donation to Meals on Wheels.

Local 697 and Sweney Electric Make a Difference for Seniors

L.U. 697 (c,es,i,mt&se), GARY AND HAMMOND, IN — Local 697 has a long history of working with our NECA partners and giving back to the community. Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana is a nonprofit that provides nutritious meals, a friendly visit and a wellness check to help seniors cope with three of the biggest threats of aging: hunger, isolation and loss of independence.

In an effort to give back to the community and make sure the Meals on Wheels facility can continue this mission, IBEW Local 697 signatory contractor Sweney Electric purchased and donated 121 LED fixtures — and the members of Local 697 working for Sweney donated approximately 60 hours of their time one evening to facilitate the lighting installation. The approximate value of the donated material and labor was just over \$15,000 and was a cost savings for Meals on Wheels equal to producing 3,000 meals for north-west Indiana seniors in need. Additionally, the new LED upgrade will greatly reduce the nonprofit's utility bills.

We hope to see everyone at our Spring Blood Drive on Friday, March 15, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Ryan Reithel, B.M./F.S.

IBEW Members Dedicate Military Veterans Monument

L.U. 827 (catv&t), EAST WINDSOR, NJ — On Veterans Day 2018, the Hudson Unit members joined with Verizon management in dedicating a military monument at the Passaic, NJ, garage job site.

The monument was constructed by Hudson Unit



Local 855 Pres. Benjamin Kelly (left) displays plaque presented to the local by Int. Vice Pres. David J. Ruhmkorff (at podium).

The Recreation Committee has been actively working for the past three years to provide many of the door prizes. The membership was treated to many fine prizes throughout the evening, thanks to these brothers' efforts. One of the evening's highlights was the presentation by Int. Vice Pres. Ruhmkorff of the International's Centennial Plaque to Local 855 Pres. Benjamin Kelly. The plaque is now proudly displayed hanging in our union hall.

The local expresses our appreciation for all our brothers and sisters for their contributions and service during our local's past 100 years.

Jeff Rodeffer, B.M./F.S.



Local 915 Pres./Dispatcher Larry Jenkins (far left) and Bus. Agent/E-Board member Shawn McDonnell (second from right) present donated Christmas gifts to the Shriner's for hospital for children.

Holiday Community Service; Newly Elected FEWA President

L.U. 915 (i&mt), TAMPA, FL — The cooler and rainy weather did not deter the membership from coming to the union hall for some Christmas brotherhood and sisterhood during the Local 915 Christmas party last year. We had close to 200-plus in attendance to dine on a traditional feast of ham, turkey and all the fixings. The fun activities included bouncy houses for the young and corn-hole games for the older kids — and Santa was there for a visit with the children to hear about all the toys he needed to make. I hope he has a big union shop!

The unwrapped gifts were gathered and taken to the local Shriners for distribution to their hospital



Mission Options students at Local 1015 training site.

2018 A Productive Year — Organizing Win & Negotiations

L.U. 1049 (lctt,o,u&uow), LONG ISLAND, NY — 2018 was another productive year for us at Local 1049. Under the leadership of Bus. Mgr. Ron Bauer, we negotiated five contracts and increased the membership by 330 members.

We renegotiated our Line Clearance Tree Trimming (LCTT) contract, our Full-Time and Temporary Flagger Agreements, our Home Serve Agreement and, finally, an extension with National Grid. Each three-year agreement included an average 3 percent wage increase and increases in the benefit packages.

In December, after a long on-again, off-again organizing campaign, Altice, formally known as Cablevision, both strong anti-union employers, agreed to card-check recognition. As of this writing, we are preparing to negotiate a first contract for the 119 tech-

for children. It always feels good to give back to the community we service. Local 915 Pres./Dispatcher Larry Jenkins and Bus. Agent/E-Board member Shawn McDonnell made the presentation of the gifts.

We are proud to report that our Local 915 Bus. Mgr. Randall King was elected president of the Florida Electrical Workers Association (FEWA) for the 2019-2022 term. Local 915 is proud of the continued confidence bestowed upon Bus. Mgr. King. We know he will help lead this organization to better serve all our classifications for Florida's future.

Theresa King, R.S.

Introducing Young Students To Electrical Trade Training

L.U. 1015 (em&i), WESLACO, TEXAS — IBEW Local 1015 wants to send out a big Texas "salute" to our hard-working IBEW sister electricians all over the USA and Canada. Our IBEW sisters are not only hard-working electricians, but some are also mothers and providers, but most of all women who have what it takes to be out in the field alongside our IBEW brothers over the years.

Local 1015 is proud to announce that we have teamed up with Mission Options School for the training of a select group of young women and men, for the 2019 school year, in the electrical trade.

With our newest group of students, we have a young woman by the name of Cassandra Padilla. When she first started our classes, she did not know what conduit is nor how to measure it for bending purposes. With hard work and training from Bus. Mgr. Sergio A. Salinas, she has learned how to bend conduit and is working diligently with the other students. Knowledge is the greatest tool that a young person can have today, which can help lead to a successful electrical career many dream about.

Tammy Casas, P.S.

Members of IBEW Locals 833 and 841, along with System Council U-19, helped build a Habitat for Humanity project.



LOCAL LINES

nicians from Nassau County. Special thanks to Bus. Mgr. Bauer, Organizer Bill O'Leary and Vice Pres. Jim Cooper for their tireless efforts during the campaign.

Also, as of this writing, we are preparing to negotiate on behalf of our members who are employed at Waste Recycling Solutions (WRS).

On behalf of Bus. Mgr. Bauer, I would like to wish everyone a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

Thomas J. Dowling, R.S.

A New Union Hall & Advanced Training Center

L.U. 1249 (catv,lctt,o,t&u), SYRACUSE, NY — The work picture in 2018 was one of the busiest in Local 1249 history, and it doesn't show signs of slowing in 2019. We have risen to the challenge to keep this work IBEW.

In 2018, the construction of our new training center was completed giving us the ability to provide our apprentices the state-of-the-art training expected from the IBEW and the Northeastern Joint Apprenticeship & Training (NEAT) program. We had 29 graduates from the NEAT apprenticeship program advance to become journeyman linemen, and we indentured 137 new apprentices to the NEAT program. We have nearly 400 travelers working in our jurisdiction and can support more. Our organizing efforts continue to be fruitful.

Our new union hall will be completed soon, and we will be moved in by the spring of this year. The completion of the new union hall will help us better serve our membership and will put our training center and union hall all in one location.

Colby J. Czajak, A.B.M.

IBEW Members Elected To State Legislature in Maine

L.U. 1253 (i&mo), AUGUSTA, MAINE — December 5, 2018, was a proud day for Local 1253 as two of our members — Tina Riley, House District 74, and Scott Cuddy, House District 98 — were sworn into the Maine House of Representatives. Tina was re-elected to her second term and Scott is a freshman legislator. With Scott joining Tina in the Maine House, all workers, and electricians in particular, now have two strong advocates fighting for all workers' rights every day in the Statehouse. Good luck, Tina and Scott, as you fight the forces that want low wages, no benefits and minimal safety for their employees.

The following Local 1253 brothers had their International pension approved in 2018: Eugene Hirst, Ray Steelman, Allen Thompson, Harry Lyons, John Albis and former business manager Wayne Rancourt. If you see these retired members, wish them well.

The following brothers passed on in 2018: retirees Richard Babson, Ernie Phair, Harold Harvey, John Firczak and Peter Fish, and active member Frank Gonzales. The local is saddened by their passing.



On swearing-in day at the Maine Statehouse, two Local 1253 members were sworn into the Legislature. From left to right are: Local 1253 Pres./Organizer Nick Paquet; state Rep. Tina Riley (HD-74); state Rep. Scott Cuddy (HD-98); and Bus. Mgr. Chuck Fraser.



IBEW Local 1347 presents holiday gifts for children at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. From left: Asst. Bus. Mgr. Kenny Gross, steward Bob Allen, steward Shawn Saylor, Exec. Board Chmn. Pat Kallagher, office coordinator Rachel Glover, Exec. Board member Don Scott Smith, Bus. Mgr. Andrew Kirk, and donor officer Sara Coyle.

Local 1253 extends its sympathy to the family of the late Int. Pres. Emeritus Edwin D. Hill on his passing.

Chuck Fraser, B.M.

Holiday Season Donations To Area Children's Hospital

L.U. 1347 (ees,em&u), CINCINNATI, OHIO — For the third year in a row, IBEW Local 1347 put forth a tremendous effort into donating stuffed animals to all the children who were staying at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital, located in downtown Cincinnati, during the 2018 holiday season. Local 1347 also gifted the hospital with an IBEW Local 1347 toy bear, who sported a T-shirt made by our very own Black Out Tee's. We look forward to making these donations happen for many years to come. [See photo, at top.]

Andrew A. Kirk, B.M./F.S.

Apprenticeship Competition

L.U. 1701 (catv,ees,i,o&u), OWENSBORO, KY — The second annual apprenticeship competition was a huge success. The winners for each apprenticeship class are as follows: David Haynes (1st year class), Tyler Bean (2nd year), Chris Clark (3rd year), Kevin Merimee (4th year), and Zack Hayward (5th year). Congratulations to all the winners! The winners received prize packages worth over \$500 each, which were made possible through donations from our signatory contractors and some of the local vendors.

We extend congratulations to the brothers who have retired over the past year: Larry Brown (44 years of service), Erman Tolliver (44 years), Anthony Stevens (20 years), Richard Goetz (24 years), and Michael Knott (37 years). Best wishes to all on a long and healthy retirement.

In sadness, we report the passing of Bros. Danny Allison and William Taylor. May they rest in peace.

Nathan M. Knott, B.R.

Accolades for Volunteers

L.U. 2067 (o&u), REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA — Volunteering might sometimes be considered a thankless job; unfortunately, in some circumstances, that can be true. A recent exception is being embraced by IBEW Local 2067.

Everyone is aware of the April 2018 Humboldt bus crash tragedy. IBEW Local 2067 has been proud to recognize two IBEW members who attended the accident as volunteer first-responders. As earlier reported, the two members also received Significant Safety Achievement Awards from their employer.

Now, Bro. George St. Amant and Bro. Ryan Steinhäusser are receiving additional recognition. On Oct. 22, 2018, IBEW Local 2067 Bus. Mgr. Jason

Tibbs went on location to present IBEW Life Saving Awards to both men. Bus. Mgr. Tibbs stated: "We encourage the membership to be active in their communities; the selflessness of these two members saved lives."

Bro. St. Amant believes volunteering is crucial.

"Especially in small towns, volunteering is essential," St. Amant said. "Someone is volunteering to coach kids in sports. I volunteer for the first-response team. If you aren't giving back by volunteering, all you are doing is taking."

But, that's not all: On Nov. 7, 2018, our brothers also received Canadian Electricity Association (CEA) Life-saving Awards at the CEA's Board of Directors & Corporate Partner event program in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Curtis Lizée, A.B.M.



Local 2067 members Bro. George St. Amant (left) and Bro. Ryan Steinhäusser (right), IBEW Life Saving Award recipients.

RETIREES

Festive Holiday Luncheon; Transition of Officers

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, NORTH NEW JERSEY CHAPTER — Greetings! Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and that everyone is enjoying a happy and healthy new year! Our club enjoyed a great, festive holiday luncheon at Seasons in Washington Township, NJ, complete with a four-course meal and a lively DJ. Everyone had a great time dancing and enjoying the delicious food! Attendance this year was at an all-time high!

We welcomed a few new club members, which we're always happy to do. The club also had a few officer changes recently as John McCormick, our chairman for the past several years, stepped down. John did a wonderful job as leader of our club and we thank him sincerely for all his hard work and wish him all the best! Anthony DePaola, formerly vice chairman, has assumed club chairmanship, and Les Rothstein will be vice chairman.

We're looking forward to another great year of camaraderie, accomplishments and fun! Again, we wish everyone a happy, healthy year!

John Krison, P.S.

Annual Holiday Party; Community Service Events

RETIRES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, SUFFOLK CHAPTER — Our annual holiday party was a great success. There was plenty of food and music for dancing. It was great to see some old friends and to say hello to some new friends. We also had our door prizes, 50/50 raffle, and a basket of cheer. I can sadly report that my number was not called again. Thanks to our committee chairman John Schoenig and his wife, Cathy, and their wonderful committee for a great time. A big thank-you also to Eileen Crisostomo for all the beautiful cards and party favors.

At our December meeting, after bagels, coffee and cake, our chapter chairman opened the meeting and called for all reports. John Schoenig reported that our Toys for Tots Drive was very successful. Harvey Goldman reported that our Annual Food Drive for Long Island Cares Food Bank was a great success. These community service drives happened because of the generosity of our members. Our chairman then spoke on the importance of supporting our club meetings and club functions.

Chapter Chmn. Richard Duva and his lovely wife, Patricia, wished everyone a happy holiday season and a very happy and healthy new year.

Harvey Goldman, P.S.



At Local 3, North New Jersey Chapter, Retirees Club celebration: One group of many enjoying the holiday luncheon at Seasons.



At the Local 3, Westchester/Putnam Chapter, Retirees Club's December 2018 holiday party. Standing, from left: Tom Capurso, Richard McSpedon, David Torres and Louis Sanchez; seated, Richard Alexander, Leonard Sasin and Richard McCormick.

Christmas/Hanukkah Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 3, NEW YORK, NY, WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CHAPTER — On Dec. 12 last year, 75 members, their wives and guests attended the Westchester/Putnam Retirees' 29th annual Christmas/Hanukkah luncheon, at the Leewood Golf Club. The room was beautifully decorated for Christmas, as it has been in recent years.

Once again, we were entertained by our own Steve DiDonato, on the accordion, who played a medley of holiday songs to the delight of all. The singing of Christmas carols was led by Sydney Berman and Carole Mills. Betty Malandro, Cathy Micka and Carole Mills handled the selling of the 50/50 raffle tickets. Our resident woodworker, Pete Snyder, brought handmade wooden Christmas tree ornaments as gifts for everyone attending.

We were able to present our best golfer trophy to Chet Maliszewski, and 80-year service plaques to Rich Alexander, Rich McCormick and Lenny Sasin; 80-year member Donald Schwer was unable to attend.

Everyone went home in a cheerful mood for the start of the Christmas season.

Dick Mills, Treas.

'Welcome to All'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 35, HARTFORD, CT — The Retirees Club had a great Christmas lunch meeting in December. We look forward to resuming our regular meeting schedule on March 13.

At this time of year, we would like to remember those members who passed away in 2018. Included in memoriam are: Greg Beck, Luis Calderon, Gary Chestone Jr., Thomas Cosgrove Jr., Robert Darling, Robert Kent, Francis Murphy, Dale Nielsen, John Rusconi and Patrick Miner.

We would love to see more retirees attending and bringing new ideas to the group. All are welcome. We meet the second Wednesday of each month at the Elk's Club in Rocky Hill.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019!

Kenneth R. White, P.S.

Standing for Working Families

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 53, KANSAS CITY, MO — Well, another year has come and gone. Happy new year to all. Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2019.

Local 53 hosted a Christmas party on Dec. 14 and had a great turnout. It was great to see old friends and share some stories. Thank you to the local for this great event.

As you all know, we fought so-called "right to work" in Missouri last year and defeated it soundly in a ballot referendum with an overwhelming majority of the voters saying no to "right to work." [Editor's Note: To read more, see Aug. 9, 2018, news article "IBEW Members Help Kill Right-to-Work in Missouri," posted on the IBEW website at www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles.]

Well, obviously some of our elected officials don't understand that no means NO! One of our Republican state senators (Eric Burlison) has already introduced right-to-work legislation for the 2019 session. I am sure that a lot of the people who voted against right-to-work in the August referendum turned around in the November 2018 midterm election and voted for the same people who tried to push this down our throat. We have to convince our members to stop shooting themselves in the foot by voting for these anti-labor politicians.

The annual crappie tournament/fish fry will be on May 4 this year, so mark your calendars. It will be a great time!

It is with great sadness that I report we lost two more retirees, Mike Wabs and John Tuttle. Rest in peace, brothers.

Duane Pearce, P.S.



Local 60 Retirees Club Pres. Coy Rogers (left) accepts a check donated to the club, presented by organizer Rick Sisk.

Spirit of Brotherhood

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS — Caring about the retirees of Local 60, the local union made a generous donation to the Retirees Club. As shown in the accompanying photo above, Retirees Club Pres. Coy Rogers accepted a check for the club, presented by organizer Rick Sisk. The funds will ensure the continuing success of the practice of brotherhood at the Retirees Club's monthly meetings, providing meals and activities.

While we start out our new year with anticipation, we look back with sadness on the loss of several friends and members we lost in 2018: Bros. David Gonzalez, Richard Suggs, Daniel Blade, Donald Orlowski, Charles Griffin, Robert L. Caldwell, Alvin McDonald, Robert F. Stuart, Joe V. Garcia, Fred Krause, Virgel King, Wayne Bulgerin, Rodolfo Llanes and Guy Katz.

The Local 60 Retirees Club meets the second Thursday of each month for the months of September through May. The club takes the months of June, July and August off for summer. After a short business meeting starting at 12 noon, lunch is served followed by games. Meetings are held at the Plumbers and Pipefitters training building, 3630 Belgium Lane. Please join us.

Sandy Rogers, P.S.

Holiday Party Well-Attended

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 99, PROVIDENCE, RI — The Local 99 Retirees Christmas Party was Dec. 18 last year, at Ralph's Catering and Kitchen in Cranston, R.I. Over 100 members, friends and family were in attendance.

All Local 99 retirees would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2019.

Frank J. Colucci, P.S.



Local 99 retired member Ernest Imondi was awarded an IBEW 70-year service pin, presented by the Retirees Club on Dec. 18, 2018.

'Don't Wait — Participate!'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 105, HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA — Local 105 Appreciation Night occurred on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Burlington Convention Centre. The theme of the evening was Casablanca, an elaborate evening we'll remember for a very long time. Special thanks to the volunteers who made this possible! Numerous brothers and sisters were recognized for their years of service; congratulations and special thanks to all of you. Cheers to Cyril "Mack" McGregor, who was honored for 70 years of service! And, let us tell you that at 92, Mack still kicks butt at Euchre!

Euchre began Jan. 7, and bowling began Jan. 9. At the time of this writing, as this article went to press, the club was scheduled to enjoy the following activities. In January: breakfast at Michelangelo's. In February — lunch at the Mandarin, Valentines Dinner/Dance at Michelangelo's, and a trip to the Toronto Aquarium, with stops at the St. Lawrence Market and The Dutch Mill. And in March: a Polish supper at Michelangelo's. You can still join — guidelines specify that those over age 55 may join the Local 105 Retirees Club, and club membership is \$25 per year.

Remember our motto: "Don't Wait — Participate!" Please remember, all that we have and all the privileges of our events, are all made possible by our hard-working local members and Executive Board, past and present. Our sincerest thanks to each and every one of you!

Eden McLean, P.S.



Local 105 retiree Cyril "Mack" McGregor (center) is honoured for 70 years of service. At left is Local 105 Bus. Mgr. Lorne Newick, and at right, Local 105 Pres. Brad Smith.

Club's 30th Anniversary

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 134, CHICAGO, IL — We hope everyone had a good start to the new year.

Flashing back to Dec. 12, at our Annual Holiday Party, we also celebrated the 30th anniversary of our Local 134 Retirees Club. Club Pres. Kevin Gibbons said a few words about our 30 years as an organization, and we all celebrated by enjoying the anniversary cake — a delicious chocolate devil's food cake, with custard filling and frosting.

Regarding our Retirees Club, I would like to mention a quote from our January 2019 Retirees Newsletter, written and edited by the club's Executive Board member Mario Coletta and club Pres. Kevin Gibbons: "The purpose of this organization shall be to carry out the spirit of our brotherhood. To aid and assist each other as necessary, and to promote the social, economic, health and welfare of its members and their families." That's an excellent description of what our club stands for, and I am proud to be a part of it.

On Feb. 12 this year, some of our club members spent a fun day at Drury Lane enjoying a luncheon and the play "Mamma Mia." And for March, we look forward to the 118th Annual Hockey Classic, featuring the Chicago police department team vs. the Chicago FBI team. This event is a fundraiser for the Honor Flight Chicago program, which transports veterans of World War II and the Korean War to Washington, DC, to visit war memorial sites. Vietnam War veterans will also be invited to join the Chicago "honor flights" in 2019.

Happy spring to all and be safe.

Sue Kleczka, P.S.



The Local 134 Retirees Club's 30th anniversary celebration featured a special custom-decorated chocolate cake.

Newly Chartered Retirees Club

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 136, BIRMINGHAM, AL — Local 136 retirees have been active as a group for many years. We meet at the hall in Birmingham on the first Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. for coffee and socializing, then lunch at 11 a.m.

Our local has sponsored the retirees group, which until recently was under the leadership of Bro. Tommy Trenor. Bro. Trenor would have received his

IBEW 70-year service pin this year but, regrettably, he passed away on June 17 last year.

The retirees group has elected Bro. Frank Perryman as their new chairman, and the retirees requested that the club become chartered through the International Office.

On Nov. 26, 2018, the IBEW Local 136 Retirees Club was officially chartered by the I.O. We would like to thank Int. Pres. Lonnie R. Stephenson and recently retired former Int. Vice Pres. Joseph S. Davis for their support and help in making this happen. In brotherhood, everyone wins.

Ross Roberson, Pres., L.U. 136

RETIREES

2018 Holiday Festivities; Upcoming Activities Planned

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 164, JERSEY CITY, NJ — The Local 164 Dinner Dance, on Dec. 1, 2018, at the Parsippany Sheridan was the gala event celebrating retirees. Over 500 attended, retired and active. Pictured in the accompanying photo below are 50-year members.

The Retirees Club had their own holiday party with over 100 brothers and sisters and significant others sharing stories, great food, music and gifts. Thanks again to Tom and Eileen Barry and their wonderful committee.

We will have a golf league in the spring and many more activities for 2019. We all worked very hard to get to this time in our lives to enjoy all the great things in life. And thanks to the IBEW Local 164 for making that possible.

David Judovin, P.S.



Attending Local 164 holiday gala are IBEW 50-year members.

70-Year Service Award

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 194, SHREVEPORT, LA — During our December 2018 Retirees Christmas Luncheon, many service pins were presented.

Among the award recipients was retiree Eben McGinty, who received his 70-year service pin! After graduating high school in 1942, Bro. McGinty chose to join the U.S. Marine Corps, and he served on the Western front in World War II. In 1948, he graduated from sign school while in New York. He then returned to Shreveport, LA, where he was initiated into IBEW Local 194 in July 1948 as a sign journeyman. Over the next 40-plus years, Bro. McGinty worked for various signatory contractors throughout Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Oklahoma.

In April of 1991, he retired from the IBEW. Bro. McGinty is now 94 years old and drove himself from Oklahoma to the luncheon. From the membership of Local 194, we thank Bro. McGinty and all the award recipients for their many years of dedication to the IBEW.

Brent Moreland, B.M., L.U. 194



Local 194 Bus. Mgr. Brent Moreland (left) presents 70-year pin to retiree Eben McGinty.

'Thanks To IBEW'

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO — After our club's January meeting, I noticed a car with the plate "THX IBEW." Thanks, indeed!

My IBEW story starts in 1961 as a 17-year-old high school graduate. At first, I was overwhelmed, but after four years of IBEW/NECA apprenticeship and on-the-job training, I gained confidence in my knowledge and ability and graduated as a journeyman wireman. This allowed me to have a secure, lifelong career. Many electricians have the same testimony.

Local 212 families have benefited because members — involved in the advancement of our union — negotiated contracts for wages, benefits, working conditions, safety, security, retirement, and health care. Everything I have traces back to my union. I still have friends from my early years in the IBEW.

Being a good union man does not end at retirement. We need to support political friends of labor with our time and money; to stay informed about the dangers from those who plot to destroy our way of life; and to support businesses that support our members and ideals.

It is with regret that we report the loss of several Local 212 brothers: Frank Bader, who was a 69-year IBEW member; Robert Holiday, 50-year member;

Thomas Foster, 45-year member; Rynold Altman, 39-year member; and Ronald Menke, 38-year member. Our deepest sympathy to their family and friends. Rest in peace, brothers.

Bob Schaefer, P.S.



At annual Christmas luncheon hosted by Local 257 are Juanita Fischer and Elaine Jurgensmeyer.

2018 Christmas Luncheon

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 257, JEFFERSON CITY, MO — Happy 2019! The year 2018 was a busy one, and we want to thank everyone who made it successful. We especially thank Ron Holzauer and Judy Holzauer, our Retirees Club president and secretary/treasurer, respectively. They don't often get kudos, but their work is greatly appreciated by all of our retirees.

On Dec. 11, 2018, we met for our annual Christmas luncheon, hosted by the Local 257 members. We thank all the members for their hospitality, as we look forward to this event every year. We also thank Juanita Fischer and Elaine Jurgensmeyer for all their hard work decorating for the Christmas luncheon. After the luncheon we had an auction featuring items brought in by our retirees. Local 257 Bus. Mgr. Don Bruemmer and Local 257 organizer and auctioneer Mike Fanning helped with the auction. Funds raised went to St. Jude's Hospital and Research Center.

On a very sad note, we send our thoughts and prayers to the family of Linda Winemiller, who passed away unexpectedly Dec. 13, 2018. We will miss her very much.

Good wishes to all in 2019. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Delores Melloway, P.S.

Christmas Dinner/Dance; 2019 Retirees Events Scheduled

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 353, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA — On Sunday, Nov. 25, last year the Local 353 Retirees Club held its 33rd Christmas Dinner/Dance with over 700 retirees and guests present, including retirees from Locals 105, 303 and 804. This was our largest group ever and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Plans for 2019 retiree events are well underway. First will be our annual trip to Niagara Falls, which includes Dinner/Theatre at "Oh Canada EH."

Next will be our Annual Pin/Award Breakfast on Wednesday, April 17, where 100 of our retirees are eligible for 50-year watches and 50-year pins. Thirty-six could receive 55-year pins, 39 could receive 60-year pins; and seven could receive 65-year pins. Totaling over 183 awards. Our list of living retired members with 50 years of service and more is now over 1,000.

Each year, we have approximately 40 percent of those eligible attend, plus their spouses and family members and interested Retirees Club members. We serve breakfast for over 200.

The retired members of our North Unit, South Unit and East Unit enjoy the planned events and benefits budgeted/organized by Local 353 Retiree Executive and provided by the Local 353 Sports, Entertainment & Retirees Fund.

Robert Rynyk, P.S.

Tribute to Retirees

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 611, ALBUQUERQUE, NM — We sure hope all you brothers and sisters had a great Christmas season and into 2019 as well. Our annual Local 611 family Christmas party took place last December at the Wool Warehouse in Albuquerque — third year in a row and a great success again. I had the opportunity to see only just a few retirees and their guests this time, so I was not able to get a group picture at the party.

If I include the 1970s and '80s, plus the last 13 years, I have submitted photos and articles to The Electrical Worker for over 25 years. I am looking to pass it on to someone else for this worthwhile commitment to our retirees. I will continue on through 2019. Retirees Club articles are published in The Electrical Worker four times a year. If you are interested in this task, please call the local union hall for more information.

We offer our condolences to families of retirees



Local 611 Bus. Mgr./Fin. Sec. Carl T. Condit and wife Mary Ann at the 611 office Christmas potluck on Dec. 13.

who have recently passed away: Eduardo Gomes, who was a retired utility lineman; retired journeyman wiremen Roy N. Hopwood, James R. Wade and Allan J. LaRue; and retired senior operator James H. Lowe. Our brothers are missed but not forgotten.

Mark your calendars: Workers Memorial Day is April 29. So, participate in this annual remembrance and action for workers killed, disabled, or injured on the job.

Tracy Hall, Pres.

Annual Luncheon in April

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 702, WEST FRANKFORT, IL — The Annual Retirees Club Luncheon will be held Tuesday, April 2, at Cedarhurst Center for the Arts, in Mt. Vernon, IL. Doors will open at 11 a.m.

The Retirees Club met on Oct. 4 and Dec. 6. At both meetings, the minutes from the previous meetings and the financial reports were read and approved. Pres. Gary King read the announce of deaths for the preceding months, followed by a moment of silence.

The trip to the Henry Miller Museum in St. Louis is still on hold due to health issues. Under "new business," in October, Pres. King encouraged support for labor-endorsed candidates and issues. In December, updates were provided on the health of various members, and it was announced that a representative from the Illinois Alliance for Retired Members would speak at the February meeting.

The 50/50 drawings were won by Bros. Logan Marlow and Rick Alegnani. In October, a cookbook donated by Carol and Jr. Marlow was won by Les Wolske; and in December, a pocket knife donated by Carol and Logan Marlow was won by Charlie May.

At the time of this writing, as this article went to press, the next Retirees Club meeting was scheduled to be held at Golden Corral in Carbondale on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, at 11:30 a.m.

Mark Baker, P.S.

Happy 2019!

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 756, DAYTONA BEACH, FL — We hope you had a merry Christmas and look forward to a happy and healthy 2019! We look forward to seeing more of you at all at our upcoming meetings. We have been having good turnouts at our meetings and hope this trend keeps up. We love seeing all of you! The Christmas party put on by the local was very nice. There was a great mix of apprentices, journeyman wiremen and retirees in attendance.

With sadness we report that, since our last article, we have had one member to pass away. We send our condolences to the family and friends of our late Bro. Frank M. "Buster" Crane Jr.

We invite any retired and unemployed brothers and sisters and their spouses who are in the area to come and join us. Our meetings are held the second Thursday of each month (September through May), at 11:30 a.m., at the Local 756 union hall, in Port Orange, FL.

Diane Gibbs, P.S.

Holiday Season & Fellowship

RETIREES CLUB OF L.U. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA — We had our 2018 Christmas luncheon at our union hall on the first Monday in December. About 35 members plus their wives attended. The food was good and so was the fellowship to start the holiday season.

As this article went to press, our next meeting was scheduled for the first Monday in March.

If you are a retired member of the IBEW in the Baton Rouge area, come join us.

W. Roland Goetzman Sr., P.S.

WHO WE ARE

The Rising Tide Lifting Women into Leadership



Members of New York Local 3's women's group, the Amber Light Society. A new project of the group is offering résumé help to women looking to move into leadership roles.

Sally McKleinfeld has been helping female friends with their résumés for years. Now she's developed a program to help even more women within New York Local 3.

The Rising Tide Résumé Project is the latest effort from Local 3's women's club, the Amber Light Society, to help its sisters create professional résumés for leadership positions within the construction industry. McKleinfeld works with Club President Michele Betancourt-Maldonado to recruit interested women for the free service.

"I want to do what I can to make better use of our talents, get us the money we're worth and bring vigor to our local by turning experienced female members into supervisors," McKleinfeld said. "The industry needs us."

Women only make up about 3 percent of construction workers nationally, with an even lower number occupying supervisory positions like foreman or contractor. The résumé project is designed to increase that number by helping women



"I want to do what I can to make better use of our [women members'] talents. ... The industry needs us."

— Sally McKleinfeld

not only create a solid résumé but realize that they do in fact have the skills to apply for higher-level roles, including owning their own companies.

"I learned that I knew and had done more than I had initially thought," said Local 3 member and project graduate Katia Ruiz, who participated in the program in 2018 and is now a forewoman. "I had way more experience than I gave

myself credit for."

Mckleinfeld notes that a lot of women come into the trades after careers in other industries, and that a lot of the skills they learned can be applied to construction supervision. Extra-curricular activities like organizing a breast cancer walk, running the PTA or being the treasurer of a community group can also be beneficial.

"All of the office skills, all of the peo-

ple skills, all of the inventory and record-keeping skills, all of that is really important," McKleinfeld said.

Pulling out all of that experience is something McKleinfeld really enjoys, she said. The process entails sending her sisters a long list of questions designed to help them write down as much as possible. After that, they have a phone call, usually about an hour long, where McKleinfeld gleans more details.

"This is where I shine," McKleinfeld said. "I love putting together the full picture of someone as a worker. You have to know their style and substance in order to describe them in a brief and compelling way. Are they a self-starter? Are they detail-oriented? You have to paint the picture of the person behind the page."

The program began in 2017. Since then McKleinfeld said 13 sisters have completed the program, and eight have been successful in getting the positions they wanted. One is the first forewoman of color at the Jacob K. Javits Center, New York's 1.8 million square foot convention center.

"It's been heartwarming doing this work because many of the sisters' reaction has been, 'Really? You're doing all this for me? You think I can do this?' And my response is, 'You're already doing the work, you should be formally recognized for it,'" McKleinfeld said.

The project may spread to other trades as well. McKleinfeld says she's talking to sisters with IATSE, the Plumbers and the Carpenters to help them develop their own projects.

For Ruiz, the project helped her become a forewoman. It also gave her something more intangible, but perhaps just as worthwhile.

"When I have those moments of impostor syndrome, I look back at my résumé and think about all the things I've done," Ruiz said. "It's really empowering."

If anyone is interested in starting their own résumé project, they can contact McKleinfeld at amberlightsociety3@gmail.com.

IBEW MEDIA WORLD

In addition to your monthly issue of The Electrical Worker, check out the wealth of IBEW-related information online.

www.ibew.org

Get all the news for and about IBEW members, including the online version of The Electrical Worker, at IBEW.org.

YouTube

The IBEW has the best workers because we've got the best training. See our newest state-of-the-art training center, located just outside Chicago, at YouTube.com/TheElectricalWorker.

Vimeo

A shuttered IBEW hall in North Canton, Ohio, has a new lease on life as an interactive museum, giving visitors a taste of what it was like to work at the city's Hoover plant. See it at Vimeo.com/IBEW.



HourPower

An IBEW project start to finish, the 180-mile Badger Coulee Transmission Line in western Wisconsin is supplying renewable and cost-efficient energy to the Midwest. Check it out on IBEWHourPower.com.



ElectricTV

From journeymen to apprentices, IBEW's expertly trained electricians were big winners in the annual IDEAL National Championship. Tune in to ElectricTV.net to see who took home the trophies.



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These items and more are now available at your IBEW Online store.





The Electrical Worker was the name of the first official publication of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in 1893 (the NBEW became the IBEW in 1899 with the expansion of the union into Canada). The name and format of the publication have changed over the years. This newspaper is the official publication of the IBEW and seeks to capture the courage and spirit that motivated the founders of the Brotherhood and continue to inspire the union's members today. The masthead of this newspaper is an adaptation of that of the first edition in 1893.

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Closed Local's Hall Gets a New Lease on Life

The union hall of a disbanded Ohio local is finding new life as a museum and learning center, thanks to an innovative partnership forged between the local's former leaders and a nearby university.

North Canton, Ohio, Local 1985 was one year away from its 60th anniversary in 2016 when it was forced to disband after the area's last remnants of the Hoover Company, where most of the local's members had worked, closed down.

"The sad part is that we disbanded and that a lot of people lost their jobs," Nick Tomey, Local 1985's final business manager, told *The Canton Repository*. "The silver lining is that our legacy will be preserved and continue on."

That preservation is taking form as a new museum housing the local's records and memorabilia under the care of the Museum Studies Program of North Canton's Walsh University.

"Shortly after Hoover shut down operations, we asked the International Office if we could donate our union hall to Walsh, and they gave us the approval to proceed," Tomey said. The idea had garnered the backing of International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth Cooper, who at the time was international vice president for the Fourth District, which covers Ohio.

"The silver lining is that our legacy will be preserved and continue on."

— Former Local 1985 Business Manager Nick Tomey

Just across North Canton's Main Street from the Hoover plant, Local 1985's hall had long been an integral part of the community, the site of numerous events and social gatherings for members and their friends and neighbors.

"Walsh was a great fit, because this building has been a part of the community for a lot of years," Tomey said. "We just hated to see it close up."

Walsh University is a 3,000-student Roman Catholic liberal arts college founded in 1960 that operates Ohio's only museum studies program, one of about a dozen in the United States. Installed in the university's new Local 1985 museum is a mix of permanent and temporary displays exploring the IBEW's place in North Canton's history, providing researchers and other interested parties supervised access to some of the local's files and photos.

Strategically placed throughout the museum are interactive stations called "maker spaces," hands-on activity and teaching stations specially designed to give young people a taste of what working at Hoover might have been like.

For most of the 20th century, Hoover was among the most popular and profitable makers of vacuum cleaners in the world. Founded in 1907 in what was then



Walsh University is turning the former IBEW Local 1985 union hall into a museum honoring Hoover's workers.

called New Berlin, Hoover started out making leather horse saddles and automobile seats. But after one of its employees invented an improved version of the "electric suction sweeper," the company decided to put resources into producing and selling it.

By 1916, the company had become so successful in this new venture that it had to build a massive downtown factory to handle the ever-increasing demand for its products.

Although Hoover would go on to set up manufacturing facilities all over the world, North Canton (as the city would be called from 1918 onward) would remain the company's headquarters for decades.

"This town probably would not be here if it wasn't for the Hoover Company," Tomey said. "They ran a really good company."

Early on, various unions had represented employees at the plant, which Tomey said was Hoover's only unionized operation. A year-long strike in the mid-1940s broke the union that was in place at the time, however, and not until 1957 was the IBEW able to successfully organize workers under Local 1985.

By the late 1970s, nearly two-thirds of Hoover's 5,000 employees belonged to the local, working for the company as electricians, assembly-line workers, truck drivers, and so on. But within a few years, Hoover was struggling financially, and in 1985 it underwent the first of what would be a succession of corporate takeovers that too often were accompanied by episodes of downsizing.

By 2006, Hoover was under Whirlpool's corporate umbrella when Local 1985's leaders, fearing the appliance giant would try to outsource what was left of the dwindling Hoover-division work, mounted an effort to buy the vacuum cleaner operations in an attempt to preserve the remaining jobs in North Canton.

Instead, Hoover's product lines were sold that year to TTI Floor Care, a Hong Kong-based corporation that also owns the Oreck and Dirt Devil brands. It didn't take long for TTI to lay off 600 of Local 1985's remaining members and close the North Canton plant.

TTI also shut down Hoover's bag-manufacturing facilities in 2012, and then in 2016 the company shut down Hoover's nearby distribution center. The resulting job losses spelled the end of Local 1985, and it disbanded shortly afterward.

For most union locals, this would be the end of the story. But Tomey had been impressed with Walsh's historical center and museum inside the Hoover family's 19th-century home on the college's campus about a mile and a half east of the factory. That center, he noted, barely mentioned workers and the IBEW, and that inspired the former business manager to approach Walsh about using Local 1985's hall as a venue that would highlight union labor's role in Hoover's history.

"We also wanted to keep the legacy of Local 1985 alive for future generations, so you could bring your grandchildren here and tell them, 'This was my union hall,'" said Tomey, a second-generation Hoover worker. His father, James, had worked there for nearly 41 years, and Nick started at the company when he turned 18 in 1976.

After several months of preparation, the museum was dedicated on Dec. 6 with a ceremony featuring several of the final former officers and board members of Local 1985 who were on hand as honored guests, along with Fourth District International Vice President Brian Malloy, International Representative Bill Dietz, and officials from North Canton and from Walsh University.

"The IBEW museum has hit on a concept that will not only preserve the legacy of the Hoover worker, but build on it for the benefit of the entire community," said Walsh Provost Douglas Palmer. "Hopefully, we will remind the young people in the community of the skills, the innovation, and most of all the spirit that goes into making something with one's own hands."

North Canton Area Chamber of Commerce President Doug Lane hopes the museum will help visitors learn what the Hoover Company meant to North Canton.

"It was a factory town," Lane said. "Whether you lived here or worked here, the IBEW was a major player. I think it meant stability for a number of residents, and I think it had a place in a lot of people's hearts. These were hard-working men and women that hopefully were getting better lives for their children."

City officials anticipate that the hall-turned-museum will become a focal point of North Canton's downtown revitalization efforts, as developers are transforming the former factory into a mixed-use, residential and commercial community called The Hoover District.

A plaque noting the Local 1985 union hall's prominent place in North Canton's history is on the Main Street-facing part of the building.

"That last day when I walked out of this building and I locked it up, I just thought, wow, there was no one to say goodbye to. That was a lonely walk," Tomey said. "But I'm happy the lights are back on today. ■"



HOW TO REACH US

We welcome letters from our readers. The writer should include his or her name, address and, if applicable, IBEW local union number and card number. Family members should include the local union number of the IBEW member to whom *The Electrical Worker* is mailed. Please keep letters as brief as possible. *The Electrical Worker* reserves the right to select letters for publication and edit all submissions for length.

Send letters to:

Letters to the Editor, *The Electrical Worker*, 900 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Or send by email to: media@ibew.org

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